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WITH SUPPLEMENT AND } TENPENCE.
COLOURED SUPPLEMENT }

THE SPEECH AND THE ADDRESS.

THE Royal Speech, at the opening of the Session is principally occupied, as might have been foreseen, with the questions of our European and Asiatic policy. The domestic subjects introduced are few and unimportant; and include no reference to Parliamentary Reform, or to the Education of the People, from which significant omissions the public may perhaps be justified in coming to the conclusion that the Government will leave these matters to the action of independent members, and either support or oppose them, as Ministerial judgment, or the necessities of party, may dictate. In addition to the old, the perpetually-recurring, and never to-be-avoided question of the Estimates for the year, the only topics of domestic interest which are mentioned are the renewal of the Bank Charter Act, the state of the law relating to Joint-Stock Banks generally, and the Consolidation and Amendment of some important portions of the Law. The Lord Chancellor, prior

to the debate on the Address, gave notice of his intention to introduce three Bills for the Reform of the Ecclesiastical Courts, under the several divisions of marriage and divorce, wills, and general jurisdiction; and in the Lower House the Home Secretary obtained leave to bring in a Bill with reference to transportation and secondary punishments. If Ministers succeed in carrying no more than these measures through Parliament, they will have done something towards rescuing the Session from the charge of barrenness, which is too often, and with great justice, brought against the assembled wisdom of the nation.

But as already observed, the main topics of the Royal Speech, and of the debates on the Address, related to the affairs of Asia. As was to have been expected, Ministers were closely questioned by the Opposition in both Houses as to the causes and objects of the two wars which the country has on hand. They gave such information as, consistently with a due regard to the public interests, they could venture to lay before Parliament. Wars are like the

conflagrations in great cities;—the nearer they are to the spectator the more absorbing the interest which they excite. The British nation, intimately connected as it is with India and China, does not yet regard the hostilities in those remote regions with as much intensity of feeling as that with which it watched every incident of the struggle in the Crimea. But we may be sure that, as time wears on, and the plot of the great Eastern drama unfolds itself in all its intricacies, the people will yield to the policy of the Home and the Indian Government that hearty support and co-operation which are essential to the triumph of our arms, the safety of our frontier and the vindication of our supremacy.

The non-corroboration of the intelligence that, after the brilliant capture of Bushire, the Shah had submitted to our demands gives additional importance to that portion of the Royal Speech which relates to Persia. If the military fame of Great Britain have suffered in the East, by the blundering incapacity which marked the early stages of the Crimean campaign, and by



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the secondary part which even in its latest stages was played by our gallant army, the history of the brilliant operations at Bushire and Karrah will go far to restore it. When the Asiatic agents of Russia shall whisper mysteriously of Kars, and place its capture by Mouravieff and the Russians as a set-off against the capture of the Malakoff by Pelissier and the French, the Eastern tribes upon our frontier, and the people of Persia, will remember the fall of Bushire, and the skill as well as prowess of our commanders and troops, and bend with wholesome terror, largely tintured with admiration, before the might and majesty of England.

The same reasons do not regulate our policy towards China. It is not a question either of frontier or of security; neither have we to foil the machinations of an aggressive European Power, stirring up against us, for its own purposes, the jealousies of the native population. The quarrel of England with China is the quarrel of the modern and expansive civilisation of Europe against the antiquated and exclusive semi-barbarism of the East. It is the quarrel of France, of the United States, and of every nation that possesses ships and commerce, quite as much as it is our own. In our dispute with Persia we can suffer no interlopers, except they come as enemies, when we shall know how to deal with them. In our dispute with China all the Powers on earth are welcome to interfere. They are all interested in proportion to their wealth and enterprise; and, if the result of the quarrel should be to open up that great empire of the East, to the ideas and trade of the greater empires of the West, the whole world will be the gainer; and China itself will not be among the least of those to whom the shock will give a forward and a beneficial impetus.

The portions of the Speech that relate exclusively to the European policy, past and present, of the nation excited long debates in both Houses. In the Upper House Lord Derby expressed his belief that the foreign policy of the Government had deprived the country of every friend it had in the world except France; and animadverted with especial severity upon the conduct pursued towards the King of Naples;—conduct which, by playing with the great question of Italian liberty, had resulted, as he thought, in making Austrian rule in Italy more fixed and permanent than ever. Mr. Disraeli, in the Lower House, was equally emphatic, though scarcely so correct. The objectors were well answered by the Earl of Clarendon and Lord Palmerston; and the leader of the Opposition in the Commons was more forcibly than politely designated by the Prime Minister as a romancer and a *gobemouche*. As regards our foreign policy in general, and the amount of revenue to be raised to carry it out, involving, as a necessary consequence, the "war ninepence" which the country seems so indisposed to pay, Mr. Gladstone will coalesce with Mr. Disraeli. Lord John Russell, like Mr. Disraeli and Lord Derby, disapproves of the course pursued towards Naples—a disapproval in which we believe he has the general sympathy both of the Liberal and the Conservative party; but supports in other respects, though not very warmly or heartily, the European policy of the Government. He seems particularly to regret what he several times called the "acerbity" shown towards Russia in the matter of Bolgrad and the Isle of Serpents; but, as the affair is settled, and as the country deemed that to be proper spirit, to which Lord John Russell has chosen to give a more unpleasant designation, the subject may be well allowed to drop, and to pass quietly into the domain of history.

All parties are satisfied at the approaching termination of the dispute between Prussia and the Swiss Cantons, and at the comforting assurance that her Majesty's Government and that of the Emperor of the French have discovered the means of an amicable settlement. The passage of the Speech that refers to the negotiations with the Government of the United States, and with that of Honduras, in reference to Central America, is particularly gratifying, and will be received by the country, as it was by Parliament, with unmixed satisfaction.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE death of the Princess de Lieven, and the reminiscences and anecdotes to which it and her singular history have given rise, have formed the chief subjects of conversation here. It appears that the Princess had no idea that her end was near, and that the real danger of her state was announced to her by M. Guizot. She is said to have received the intimation with perfect resignation, and almost immediately to have sent for the Lutheran pastor, M. Cuvier (M^{me}. de Lieven was a Protestant), with whom she had a long conversation. From that time she refused to see any one but her son, Prince Paul de Lieven, M. Guizot, and the Duc de Noailles. M^{me}. de Lieven's political career—for it was virtually as real a political career as that of almost any mausoline diplomatist of our day—is too generally known to make it our place to enter thereupon. But her private character presented certain traits less familiar to the general world. Among these her remarkable fidelity to her friends deserves to be cited. Amid the atmosphere of intrigue, political jealousies, and diplomatic finesses in which she found herself—nowise unwillingly—encircled, she adhered constantly to those who had once acquired her regard; and, for one in such a position, and appertaining to such a nation, this merit was no small one. It seems, however, to be somewhat generally acknowledged that Madamede Lieven had a little survived her day, and she has for some years been looked upon rather as a relic and a tradition belonging to an order of things gone by than as an important and influential personage of the day; and even the réunions of her salons bore a certain trace of this feeling.

A series of balls are taking place at the Tuileries, the Hôtel de Ville, and among the ambassadorial, ministerial, and other public circles. In the Chaussée d'Antin a few houses are open, in the Faubourg St. Honoré yet fewer, and in the Faubourg St. Germain none. Meanwhile the prices of all the necessities, as well as of the luxuries, of life rise steadily and rapidly, and we may, we believe, with safety assert that Paris is at present by far the dearest residence in Europe.

The details of the execution of the wretched criminal, Verger, are full of a horror that excites but too much interest. His cries and frantic resistance, which nothing but the exercise of force could overcome, when summoned to execution, proved the real cowardice of the nature which hesitated not in the execution of the darkest, most deliberate, and most unprovoked crime. The report of the medical commission charged to examine into his state of mind

was presented to the Emperor by Dr. Conneau. It declared him to be in a condition that rendered him perfectly responsible for his acts, notwithstanding the somewhat abnormal excitement under which he laboured; and the Emperor, on the faith of this report, is said at once to have rejected Verger's petition for pardon, unexamined. The father of the assassin was porter of a house in the Rue de Seine, and, though immediately after the execution of the crime he left the place, the house is still besieged by crowds of idlers, come expressly to see "*le père de l'assassin*." Among the persons who presented themselves at the prison—many having come expressly from the provinces—in the intention of converting the criminal, was a lady, who, having vainly sought admission, drew forth a medal, requesting the *ammonier* to swallow it, assuring him that his immediate conversion would infallibly be the consequence. Pretty well for the nineteenth century!

It is said that the visit of the Grand Duke Constantine is likely to take place about April.

The sixth volume of the "*Mémoires du Duc de Raguse*" produces even a greater sensation than those which have preceded it. It is full of new and startling revelations respecting the events and personages of the Napoleon era; of remarkable descriptions of character; and of sagacious and impartial appreciations of the acts and views of the men engaged in the affairs of that day. The great European drama of 1814 is fully entered upon; and this portion of the history, together with two striking descriptive portraits of Napoleon—one as he showed himself before, the other what he became after, Tilsit—are replete with interest and instruction.

The rising belles of the day are the Mdlles. Laffitte, the daughters of M. Charles Laffitte. The elder, a striking brunette of sixteen, has made her *début* with considerable *éclat* at the Tuileries; the second, a charming blonde, a year younger, has only, as yet, appeared at the Italian Opera, but has already attracted much admiration by her delicate and somewhat pensive beauty. Both are heiresses, which is rather unjust in the distribution of advantages.

At the Opéra Comique the "*Psyché*" of MM. Jules Barbier and Michel Carré proves very attractive. The plot is founded on the fable of Apuleius, in which *Psyché*, by her fatal curiosity, causes the flight of Cupid, or Eros; thence exposes herself unprotected to the wrath of Venus, but is finally saved by Zephyr, sent by Eros to withdraw her from the jealous rage of Aphrodite. The music is charming; and, notwithstanding the material difficulty of rendering, without ridicule, the personages of the mythology, the story is sufficiently well carried out.

THE WAR IN CHINA.

(Extract from a Private Letter.)

CANTON, December 13th, 1856.

IF ever such an affair as peaceful warfare could exist, we see it now in China. Things always go by contraries here. It is hard to say whether the motives of Admiral Seymour are yet fairly appreciated; but I doubt not that, if he continues in the course he appears to have laid out for himself, incalculable benefits will be derived from his bold, dashing, but humane policy. All that is to be feared is that some bungling diplomacy may ruin all the good his acts may be beginning to accomplish. It must appear strange to English notions that the chief act on the Admiral's part during the last month is to take a fort which he previously captured. You must learn and think a good deal before you can realise the Admiral's position. Dragged, perhaps unwillingly and unwittingly, into warfare operations, he has carefully watched over the future events that might arise from his proceedings. Instead of, in the first instance, destroying every fort he took, he only captured one stronghold after another, resting contented with dismantling each, and trusting that each new success on his part might bring the existing dispute to a satisfactory issue. The forts were left entire, so that they could readily be rearméd by the Chinese to protect themselves from rebellion or plundering natives when trade could again be amicably conducted with foreigners. Had he utterly destroyed the forts at first, the Government would not have been in a position to give safe guarantee to future trade. Now the Government is not able to do so. Mistaking the Admiral's clemency, the Governor-General rearméd some of the forts. This act has resulted in the destruction of nearly all. It has led him into open warfare with the Americans too, and made his position on the river entirely at the mercy of foreigners so long as they choose to hold possession of points gained, and laid it open to any inroad that may be attempted by the numerous bands of rebels who swarm throughout the province.

The recapture of the forts that had been evacuated was nearly as easy as when the Chinese said they were unprepared. Their preparations were made at leisure, and appeared to be perfected; yet the Bogue forts, with their hundreds of guns, passed unheeded at first, were readily taken when fully manned. The great stronghold of their defence in the immediate vicinity of Canton fell a second time into Sir Michael Seymour's power. Every possible effort had been made to make the French Folly impregnable: batteries had been erected outside, picked troops were encamped close by to man them whenever an attack was made. A force had been sent against the place, but returned, as it appeared to be advisable that no risk of repulse should be incurred, the place was so well adapted for defence.

However, on the 4th December, the Admiral determined to take the fort, batteries and all. I was in the Dutch Folly when the fort was being taken, and entered the French Folly when we had got possession. It was a beautiful morning; the sun rose brightly, peacefully shining on the quiet and placid river, but the waters bore a warlike flotilla that was soon to change the scene to the fierceness of war. What stately grandeur there is in the steady movements of the two great steamers as they take up their position—the *Encounter* first, then the *Barracouta*!—the armed boats with the storming party pulling impatiently about their more heavily-armed protectors. At a given signal, crash went the guns of the two ships and the powerful battery of the Dutch Folly at the devoted fort. The range was perfect—shot after shot, shell after shell, poured in with astounding force; the moorings bursting as they struck made the fire from the fort appear to be more powerful than it really was. They would be "braves" indeed who would stand to their guns under such a well-directed fire. Yet there were some who did remain—they fired with some effect, too. Both steamers were struck; and, when the Dutch Folly sixty-eight pounder pitched a shot beautifully into the fort, a gun was trained and fired in return, but, feebly dropping quietly into the water after a long train of ricocheting, the shot served as a signal of powerlessness, and the order was given for the boats to advance. What a noble sight it is to see such specks on the water advance fearlessly to the very cannon's mouth! They escaped the shower of grape scattered plentifully about them. The sharp crack of a few Minié rifles are heard; a wild cheer; and then more firing. The boats reach the very ports of the fort; some dash at the batteries. No fire will retard them; not even rockets, hissing fury in the faces of the men, stop the determined onslaught! Such daring cannot be withstood: the defenders of the fort are panic-stricken; the batteries deserted; and, with the loss to us of only one man, the whole fortress and its additional protections are, in a short ten minutes from the time the boats attacked, in undoubted possession. The first trophy is the flag: the characters emblazoned thereon bear the vaunting title, "The fort that shall never be taken."

The first shot was fired at half-past six in the morning. Before six hours were over the walls had been ruined; and the powerful, substantial, solid masonry was hurled into the air by eighteen quick successive explosions. But a feeble attempt was made to recover the place. A severe lesson was taught to those who attempted it. They only dare resist under cover of houses. All the houses were turned. Surely the Chinese well now know the utility of continuing a warfare where they are so palpably unsuccessful. The whole city would at once know of their discomfort, and the salvos of the ex-

ploding mines would ring forth a cry of victory in our favour that will not readily be forgotten. A mass of ruins stand as a speaking monument of our success.

It is a pity that no more forts remain for our naval forces to attack within the Bogue. The city will no doubt be spared until sufficient land force arrives to take firm possession with power to protect the inhabitants. It would reap a well-merited destruction if any attempt is made upon the Admiral's position, but such an attempt is scarcely to be expected. The Chinese people would prevent it, knowing what would be the consequences. Oh how much could be written on this point! How sadly have the Chinese and the Chinese affairs been misjudged in high quarters! Where will the difficulties end that have been begun by the ignorance and folly of some of our officials in the East? If our diplomats only managed their affairs as successfully as our present naval Commander-in-Chief there might be some hope for progress in China. But, while our Plenipotentiaries have successively been deluded by the Mandarins that the people are our enemies, and that our trade must be restricted, how can any advance be made? The foreign trade is fettered by our own regulations; and, while the natives strive to push their commerce forward with foreigners with most persevering energy, their efforts are checked by thieving officials, who try to keep us from mixing with the people, lest we may suffer *injury* from them.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

Although we have no direct positive intelligence from the seat of war in Asia, various stray items of information have come to hand which indicate the occurrence of important events. Thus, from Constantinople we learn that Haidar Khan, at the head of a cavalry brigade, had taken Furrah, and was advancing to attack the Persian army under Murad Khan; and that an English division, under Sir John Lawrence, is marching towards Candahar.

The *Moniteur de l'Armée* publishes a communication from Persia, in which is announced what it terms "a serious fact," that the most important provinces of Afghanistan, without whose assistance the British army could not undertake a campaign in the interior of Persia, had declared for the Shah. It is added, that the Governor of India, who had entertained an idea of sending an expedition to Cabul, had wisely abandoned it, having received positive information that he could not rely on the troops of Dost Mahomed. It is said that, since then, the whole of Candahar had declared for Persia. The tribes of the Douranees, who are contiguous to that province, and who are regarded as the most powerful in the country, had prevailed on the Government and the other chiefs to send a deputation to Teheran. These deputies were admitted to an audience on the 7th December by Nadir Eddin Shah, to whom they presented the tribute of their homage. The city of Candahar, situate on the left bank of the river Urghundaub, in a magnificent and fertile plain, and in the richest portion of Afghanistan, is a strategic point of the greatest importance. It commands the three roads by which British India may be approached. The district called Candahar, of which the city is the capital, comprises three provinces with a population of 1,500,000 inhabitants, and a standing army of 30,000 men supplied by the various tribes which inhabit it. The occupation of the town of Furrah by the Persians had considerable influence on the Afghans, and that of the population of the entire of Western Afghanistan. The *Moniteur de l'Armée* regards the plan of the General commanding the British army in the Persian Gulf, as developed by the attack on Bushire, as well conceived in a strategic point of view. It thinks that he never intended to advance into the interior of Persia, or into the plains of Afghanistan, but solely to attract the enemy to these points, and to divert their attention, while he established himself on the Persian Gulf. It affirms as a fact that, since the capture of Bushire, the British Commissioner who accompanied the expedition has proposed terms of peace to the Shah, and among the conditions imposed on the Persian Government is the right of the British to in future possess an establishment in the Persian Gulf. Such an establishment is of the first consequence for the navigation of the Euphrates, and for the new railway which is to connect that river with the Mediterranean. That is the pith of the question. "Such," says the *Moniteur de l'Armée*, "is the plan of the British Government, always so persevering and so correct in their point of view with respect to the interests of the East India Company." The reply of the Shah to the propositions of the British Commissioner cannot be known for at least a month, in consequence of the season and the distance from Teheran to Bushire.

THE PRINCIPALITIES.

The *Moniteur* of Thursday contains an article on the question of the union of the Danubian Principalities. The Plenipotentiary of France at the Conference of Vienna had stated it as his opinion that it was the combination best suited to assure to those provinces the strength necessary to become a bulwark for the Ottoman empire. The French Government had not ceased to profess the same opinion, and what has recently taken place between it and the other Cabinets has only tended to confirm it in its convictions. It does not despair of seeing them prevail in the councils of the Powers, and that the one most interested will admit that the union of the Principalities has nothing which is not completely in accordance with the rights of suzerainty of the Sublime Porte with regard to the Danubian Principalities.

The *Presse d'Orient*, Jan. 26, states that the Commission for the Principalities was received yesterday by the Sultan.

The Porte is preparing an amnesty for all the emigrant Moldo-Wallachians.

AMERICA.

By the arrival of the Royal mail steam-ship *Asia* at Liverpool, on Monday last, we have intelligence from New York to the 21st ult.

The only important business which had been done in Congress was the discussion of the Tariff Bill by the House of Representatives in Committee, which had been continued for several successive days. In the course of this debate Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, stated that a majority of the Committee of Ways and Means desired, by the extension of the free list, to give incidental protection, and that the bill offered would reduce the annual receipts more than 10,000,000 dollars. It was also their intention to simplify the collection of the revenue, and to materially reduce the expenses of the Custom Houses. Mr. Akers, of Missouri, made a speech in vindication of the principles of the American party. Mr. Durie, of Rhode Island, advocated protection for American manufactures; and political speeches were made by Messrs. Keitt, of South Carolina, and Bliss, of Ohio. Mr. Keitt, so far from regarding the slavery agitation as being quieted by the election of Mr. Buchanan, thought that the tendency of affairs was still more towards the formation of geographical parties, and a dissolution of the union; but he believed the South abundantly able to take care of herself, and avowed it to be her policy to extend her institutions into adjoining countries, the Governments of which were falling, and the people of which were degenerating into mongrelism.

The charges of corruption which have been brought against some members of Congress continue to excite great attention. Mr. Raymond, the editor of the *New York Daily Times*, was examined by the Committee of Investigation of the House of Representatives on the 14th. He declined to state the name of the writer of the article in the *Times* of the 6th, in which those charges were publicly made, but avowed his responsibility for it.

The defeat of Colonel Forney, and the re-election of Mr. Cameron to the Senate, by the Legislature of Pennsylvania, has greatly astonished the Pro-Slavery men, who thought themselves sure of the Quaker State. The re-election of Mr. Sumner to the Senate, now that the numbers are given, is not calculated to allay the fears of the Democrats.

No senator was ever elected or re-elected by Massachusetts with such complete unanimity as Mr. Sumner. In the House 333 members voted for him, and only 12 "scattering votes" were cast; while the Senate elected him by a vote of acclamation—every senator was in his seat. The enthusiasm which was manifested in the city of Boston and throughout Massachusetts has never been equalled. It is the highest testimonial of regard that ever was paid under similar circumstances to a citizen of the Republic.

Advices from California to Dec. 20 had been received at New York. The news is important. The Supreme Court had pronounced a decision to the effect that, by the constitution of the State, no public debt could be contracted by the Government of California exceeding the sum of 300,000 dols., unless previously consented to and ratified by a direct vote of the people. Business at San Francisco was represented as dull, but a demand had recently sprung up for real estate, which had caused a rise.

Advices from Mexico state that the revolution at San Luis Potosi had been completely suppressed, and that Comonfort's position was good. All the eminent military chieftains, including Alvarez and Vidauri, gave him a hearty support.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

THE opening of Parliament by Commission is but a negative proceeding. The ceremonial which surrounds the delivery of the Speech by the Queen in person acts as an impulse upon the Session; it seems to give it a vigorous start: whereas when the function is committed to Royal Commissioners the affair partakes rather too much of the character of a burlesque in some respects—for instance, take the singular cocked hats which in modern times do duty for Peers' coronets;—and in others it is cold and languid, as well as tedious.

It was in this way that on Tuesday last the Session of 1857 was inaugurated. There was accordingly but a thin gathering of Peers in the House of Lords at two o'clock; and the spectators were few, and sombre in their appearance. Nor did the members of the House of Commons think it necessary to assemble in any great number in the early part of the day. There was no Cabinet Minister present; and the leaders of the Opposition were not at hand to accompany the Speaker when he proceeded, at the summons of Black Rod, to the Upper House. At the moment of his departure "Big Ben," on whom a trial had been going on at intervals during the morning, suddenly began to toll in a most measured and lugubrious fashion. The sound was that of a passing bell; and a superstitious punster declared that it portended the dissolution of Parliament.

At a quarter to four the aspect of the House of Commons became more cheerful: members were beginning to feel more at home; and as the familiar voice of Mr. Hayter broke on their ears while performing one of his duties—the moving of new writs for seats vacant among the Liberals—they began to assume that peculiar conventional tone which every one of them so unmistakably adopts after he has been a month an M.P.

There was the usual stir and movement when they heard that Mr. W. Cowper was to have the charge of the education of the country, and that Mr. Monsell was to turn to account the experience he had acquired at the Board of Ordnance, by taking care of the health of the metropolis; and they laughed when the vacancy announced for Clonmel proved that Mr. John O'Connell had sunk from a martyr patriot, into a small place-man. In the mean time the House was filling fast. The Ministers were ranged on the Treasury bench; and the Peelites, in the persons of Messrs. Gladstone, Sidney Herbert, and Cardwell (Sir James Graham was absent), ranged themselves by the side of the Manchester party, including Messrs. Cobden and Milner Gibson, on their usual seats. Of the chiefs of the Opposition Mr. Disraeli was the last to appear. Lord Stanley, although he gave his sanction to the renewed cohesion of the Conservative party by joining Mr. Disraeli's Parliamentary dinner the day before, left his accustomed seat and went into the gallery above, where he remained during the greater part of the debate. Soon two gentlemen, looking stiff and perplexed in that combination of scarlet cloth and silver lace which marks the office of Deputy Lieutenant, were observed to hasten in an uncomfortable manner up the floor, and endeavour to hide themselves on the second seat behind the Treasury bench—they were the mover and seconder of the Address. And at about a quarter to five Sir John Ramsden, the member for Taunton, commenced, in a clear, loud voice—the tones of which bore a singular resemblance to those of Mr. Disraeli, and which somewhat neutralised the effect of his youthful and rather feminine appearance—the delivery of a set speech, which was a very fair specimen of juvenile oratory. A less happy fate awaited Sir Andrew Agnew, who followed him. He had either not condescended to learn or had forgotten his lesson, and the result was that he only just escaped what is technically called a breakdown. In the course of the day it was rumoured that it was the intention of Mr. Disraeli to open the budget of intelligence with regard to the foreign policy of Ministers (which he gathered in Paris in the last few weeks), as soon as the Address was moved. Nevertheless, the eager restlessness of Mr. Gladstone was observed to portend an attempt to catch the Speaker's eye; and Sir Bulwer Lytton was seen to crouch in the attitude which a man assumes when he is about to start to his feet; while the leader of the Opposition leaned back in his seat with that impassive listlessness which characterises his demeanour in the House. However, at the right moment Mr. Disraeli appeared at the table, and Mr. Gladstone was forced, by the implied rule of the House, to yield to him. Of Mr. Disraeli's speech it may be said that the beginning was cumbersome and circumlocutory, the middle vigorous and animated, and the end financial, and therefore a failure. Finance is the very *bête noire* of the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer. On the whole, although it was probably somewhat modified, in consequence of Mr. Disraeli having preceded him, Mr. Gladstone's speech was more dangerous to the Ministry than that of the avowed leader of the Opposition. All allegiance to the compact which brought the coalition Government of Lord Aberdeen together was thrown off, and there was an earnestness about him which Lord Palmerston must have felt to be telling, as his Lordship immediately made one of his best efforts to do away with its effects; although in fact his speech was a reply to Mr. Disraeli. There was eminent tact in this. It would not have done to have been jocose on Mr. Gladstone—first, because he is still nominally the Premier's "right honourable friend;" and, secondly, because his speech did not admit of being taken in a jesting point of view. But the "right hon. gentleman opposite" was fair game, and very good game was made of him. It cannot but strike any one who is in the habit of looking on in the House of Commons how singular is Lord Palmerston's position. He has not one debater in his Ministry at once able and safe. It needs, therefore, the utmost tact in him so to time his speeches as that he may embrace and reply to the main points of the discussion, and yet not leave himself exactly in the necessity of making his speech a mere summary of the debate. On Tuesday night, in spite of all his management, he was obliged to trust himself to the tender mercies of a subtle and experienced Parliamentary speaker, who, as well as Mr. Disraeli, has employed the recess in informing himself on foreign policy in a foreign country. The only difference is that Mr. Disraeli has been in France and Lord John Russell in Florence. At one time the circumstance of Lord John Russell addressing the House of Commons from a back bench, and commanding an audience of about fifty members only, would have been a world's wonder; but so it was on the first night of this Session. There was something suspicious in his attempt to follow Lord Palmerston; and the first few sentences of candid praise of his "noble friend" which he uttered were the sure harbinger of the bitter lecture which succeeded. In short, the severest blows which the Government received on that night were from their flank and their rear. It may, perhaps, be said that, judging from his appearance, Lord John has found macaroni a sustaining and invigorating edible.

After this the debate languished through Mr. Milner Gibson, and ended in a drone with Mr. Hadfield; and, except that it threatened to inundate the Ministry with motions on the subject of the Income-tax, it has given no decided indication of the policy of their opponents. It

was said, however, that if a division had been forced on it might have ended in the defeat of the Government.

That such was not the intention of Lord Derby and his party, the course he took in the Upper House sufficiently proves. The proceedings in that House were in a degree parallel to those in the Commons, for no sooner had the mover and seconder of the Address satisfactorily convinced their audience of their political nonentity (indeed the very identity of one of them was in question, and whether it was Earl Cowper or the Earl of Airlie who seconded the Address was a matter of doubt) than Lord Derby rose. On the first night of a Session the noble Earl is really delightful. His vivacity is so genuine, and his pleasure at having the opportunity of giving the reins to his eloquent tongue so apparent, that one is inclined to forgive his occasional bitterness, and the chuckle with which he delivers a bit of wicked ridicule. Perhaps, as a whole, his speech on this occasion was not one of his very happiest efforts, but still its sparkle and brilliancy contrasted strongly with the dreamy calmness of that of Lord Clarendon. After Lord Grey had once again, in his keenest and shrillest style, asserted his claim to head the Peace party, the interest of the debate passed away, for Lord Granville spoke not a word of the Russian language, and only seemed to wish to signify that he was tired of the leadership of the Upper House. The division on the amendment of Lord Grey was a needless trouble, and in its result was more of a triumph than otherwise to the Government.

And so ended the first night of the Session of 1857.

THE INCOME-TAX.—MEETING AT BOSTON.

A crowded meeting, convened by requisition, was held at Boston, on the 27th ult.; the Mayor in the chair. Several resolutions, condemnatory of the Income-tax in its present shape, were carried unanimously, and a petition to Parliament adopted, praying that the additional 9d. in the pound be at once repealed. The Rev. T. W. Matthews, and Messrs. Noble, Chapman, Coupland, Hill, and other gentlemen, took part in the proceedings.

The following letter has been addressed by Mr. Herbert Ingram, M.P., to Mr. John Noble, junior, the mover of the first resolution at the meeting:—

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Feb. 3rd, 1857.

Dear Sir,—I see by the reports in the public papers that you have held an Income-tax meeting at Boston. Now, I am quite sure we are all perfectly agreed in opinion that the small trader and the hard-worked professional man, ought not to pay in proportion to the fundholder and other proprietors of what is called realised property; at the same time, I am sure you cannot possibly wish that persons best able to pay should escape. The plan generally proposed—that of capitalising incomes—to remedy the inequality of the Property and Income Tax would only increase the evil. Now just look at its operation in practice. We will take the first person in the empire after the Sovereign, the Prime Minister: his income, if valued, is not worth three months' purchase in the market. Then take all the other Ministers: all those would entirely escape in the operation of capitalising income. Then take the Bishops, the highly-endowed clergy, the large-salaried persons under Government—all would escape with scarcely anything to pay. The large profit-making traders in London, and all persons of that class, would escape with a very small amount of taxation:—in fact, the amount to be levied would be so reduced that a serious deficiency in the revenue would occur, and the amount of indirect taxation must be increased.

It seems strange, with the decided feeling in the country that realised property should contribute more to the State, that a contribution is made annually out of the Consolidated Fund towards the County-rate; and, this year, to the new County Police. To be consistent, those contributions ought to be discontinued; as, clearly, those grants are a relief to *real* property.

With respect to the taxes on the labouring classes, they now pay 5s. in the pound in the shape of duties on tea, coffee, sugar, &c.; and I, for one, must resist any further burdens in this quarter.

I think the mode and machinery of assessment of the Income-tax is most oppressive and arbitrary; and I have given notice to bring the matter before the House with a view to the improvement generally of collecting the Inland Revenue.

I hope my constituents will not aid any movement for increasing the indirect taxation of the country, heavily pressing, as it does, on the industry and commerce of the country.

I have the pleasure of stating that I have every reason to believe the Income-tax will be immediately reduced to 7d. in the pound.

I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

HERBERT INGRAM.

John Noble, Jun., Esq., Boston.

BEER MEASURES.

SOME curious statistics of the beer trade, showing how the perennial streams of "malt and hops" in a state of decoction are prepared and distributed, appear in a return printed by order of the House of Commons, on the instance of Mr. Apsley Pellatt. The status exhibited is that obtained from the issue of licenses during the year 1855. At that time, it seems, there were in all England only 2290 licensed as "common brewers"—i.e., who manufactured the article for others to sell: The Atlantic Ocean of fluid furnished by this select band was distributed among the English lieges by no fewer than 155,144 retailers, either classed as "victuallers," or merely licensed to sell beer, to be drunk or not drunk on their premises, according to circumstances. There were, besides, an auxiliary corps of 38,791 persons authorised to retail beer of their own brewing. In all Scotland, under the fiery despotism of whisky, the humbler beverage finds but 120 wholesale manufacturers; and 12,977 retailers, of whom 3329 are entitled "grocers;" and 137 persons licensed to brew their own beer. Ireland possesses 104 brewers, and 16,051 retailers of beer. There is no publican in the sister isle who seems to think it worth while taking out a license to brew his own beer.

Among the English counties, Yorkshire, from its size and population, enjoys the greatest number of brewers, having 259; and 12,837 retailers of various description. Lancashire, however, ran very near in the thirsty race, with its 253 brewers; and can boast of a greater number of retailers, namely, 17,679;—its great superiority being in the class of persons merely licensed to sell beer to be drunk on the premises. In London and Middlesex there are 115 licensed brewers; and in Kent, which also supplies the metropolitan market, 114. The adjacent counties of Surrey, Sussex, and Suffolk have also 248 among them. By licensed brewers must not, of course, be understood so many breweries, since all the members of a brewing company must take out a license. The number of retail dealers in the metropolitan counties is unexpectedly small, as compared with Yorkshire and Lancashire, and to the ratio of the inhabitants. There are but 8564, of all denominations, in London and Middlesex. The great brewers, also, possess a close monopoly of the market, only 85 licenses having been taken out by dealers wishing to brew their own beer among a population of some three millions.

The smallest number of brewers in any English county is in little Rutland, where there are but 2 and 129 retailers.—Helped out, however, by 75 dealers, who sell their own brewage. The principality stands low in the schedule of beer-drinking. Throughout its twelve counties there are only 87 brewers, of which number three counties—Gloucester, Denbigh, and Cardigan—monopolise 50. The number of retailers is pretty large, being 6558, besides the 4677 persons who brew as well as sell their own beer—or, should we say, *crab*?—on their own premises.

THE LINE OF OLIVER CROMWELL.—The Cromwells still live—the line of Oliver, in direct descent from the veritable Oliver that drove out the "Rump Parliament," still lives! A part of the family lives in Clay county, Indiana. They are farmers, rather above mediocrity in their vicinity, intelligent, and in full possession of the family history, they still keep up the name of Oliver in every family. Oliver Cromwell V. now lies in the cemetery at Bowling-green. He died there, an aged, respected, and venerated citizen of Clay county, in 1855. If France did not find the missing Dauphin in Ebenezer Williams, England can find her Cromwells in the Hoosier State.—*Ohio Statesman*.

A GOOD INVENTION.—We left Berlin on the 29th, and came directly hither, a distance of 180 miles by railroad. I noticed in the cars a new contrivance for warming the feet, which in our case was wholly successful. Long, flat boxes of tin or zinc, covered with carpeting and filled with hot sand, are placed upon the floor, between the seats, so that the passengers on both sides can make use of them. These boxes were mildly warm when we started, and not quite cold when we arrived at Hamburg, eight hours afterwards.—*Bayard Taylor in the New York Tribune*.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Queen has appointed the Duke of Rutland to the office of Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, vacant by the death of the late Duke of Rutland.

The King of Holland, as a mark of his satisfaction of the army of the Dutch colonies in India, has nominated his son, the Prince of Orange, a Lieutenant-Colonel in a regiment of infantry in that army.

The Earl of Portsmouth was prevented by indisposition from attending Earl Granville's State dinner on Monday evening.

The King of Sardinia left Nice at midnight on the 28th ult., and returned to Genoa by the Cornice road, which was illuminated for some distance on his way. The people of Nice assembled in front of the Palace, and greeted him, as he came out with cordial cheers.

The Duke of Montebello, a *ci-devant* Orleanist, is spoken of as the probable successor of M. de Morny at St. Petersburg, whenever favourable circumstances allow of that eminent statesman returning to Paris.

The Marquis d'Azeglio, the Sardinian Minister, accompanied by the Countess of Shaftesbury and family, visited Wimborne Minster on Saturday last, to see the new chancel, which has recently been thrown open.

King Louis of Bavaria arrived at Verona on the 31st ult., and left next day for Milan.

The third Court ball of the season took place in Brussels on the 29th ult. At nine the State rooms were completely filled. The King, leading the Princess Charlotte and the Count de Flandres, arrived at an early hour. The young Princess wore a white dress, trimmed with red flowers, and on her head a wreath of roses. The King retired at eleven, but dancing was kept up till two in the morning.

In and after the third week in February the Bishop of London will hold his receptions at London-house on Tuesdays, instead of Fridays, as heretofore.

The Grand Duke and Grand Duchess Constantine of Russia have left Hanover for Altenburg and Weimar. They are to return to Hanover in ten days.

It is said that the ex-Regent of Portugal, Dom Fernando, meditates a Continental tour, and that in the first place his Majesty will visit this country in the war-steamer *Mindello*.

Among the passengers who arrived at Southampton this week, in the Peninsular mail-boat *Tagus*, was Mr. Sullivan, the United States' Minister at the Court of Lisbon.

The marriage of the daughter of the distinguished writer, M. Villemain, with the son of M. Targé, who was Attorney-General to the Court of Angers, and deputy for Maine-et-Loire under Louis Philippe, took place on Monday at the Church of St. Germain des Prés.

We are sorry to hear that the Solicitor-General for Ireland, Mr. Christian, is labouring under a severe illness.

General Count d'Andigné, formerly a Peer of France, died at Fontainebleau last week, at the advanced age of ninety-one.

Mr. Hope Johnstone's claims upon the constituency of Dumfriesshire have been recognised by the withdrawal of Lord Henry Scott from the contest.

On Saturday Mr. T. Chambers, the recently-elected Common Serjeant, was sworn into office.

Governor Reeder, backed by the Free State men of Kansas, is again contesting General Whitfield's right to a place in the House of Representatives.

Mr. E. R. Langworthy has been returned for Salford without opposition.

The Russian Ambassador, Count Kisseleff, has left Paris for Nice. His return to Paris is fixed for the 18th.

The English and French Governments have instructed their respective Ambassadors to intimate to the Austrian Government their great satisfaction at the conduct of the young Emperor at Milan in granting so complete an amnesty.

Dr. Carl Scherzer has been appointed at the head of a Commission of Naturalists who are about to accompany an expedition for scientific discovery sent out by the Government of Austria. The expedition is to start from Trieste at the end of this month.

The French Government will, it is said, defray the whole expense of the sojourn of the Persian Ambassador in Paris.

The triennial festival of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester is fixed to be held at the first-named city on the 25th, 26th, 27th, and 28th of August, and the services of the following artists have already been secured:—Madame Clara Novello, Miss Dolby, Mrs. and Mr. Weiss, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Montem Smith, Mr. Thomas, and Herr Formes.

Mdme. Volnys, the actress, who had obtained a *congé* from the director of the Imperial theatres of St. Petersburg to proceed to Nice to be present at the deathbed of her daughter, will not return to the stage. She is to remain in Nice, where she has been appointed reader to the Empress Dowager.

Ernesto Calì, an eminent Italian sculptor, is now completing a monumental figure of Lady Victoria Talbot, daughter of Earl Talbot, who died at Naples last summer. The figure reposes on a Pompeian couch in the attitude in which the lamented young lady lay after death.

Monsignor Geissel, the Archbishop of Cologne, is so desirous that Duns Scotus, the "Doctor Subtilis," should be canonised, that he is going to Rome to see that the matter is taken in hand by his Holiness.

Mr. Rogers, the American sculptor, now at Rome, has received an order from the United States' Government for one of the bronze doors of the library at Washington upon the model for which he is now successfully engaged, as well as upon a statue of John Adams, destined for Boston.

Mr. Lumley has concluded an engagement with Mdle. Piccolomini for three years.

The Board of the Department of Science and Art has received instructions from the Treasury to include in the estimates of the year 1857-8 a certain sum, on account, for the erection of a building for the Industrial Museum of Scotland.

The sum of £60,000 is paid by the Bank of England as a composition for Stamp-duty, and £120,000 contribution out of the profits of the circulation on department.

It is reported that the Credit Society (St. Paul) has made a treaty with the city of Paris for a loan of fifty millions.

Under Schedule E of the Income-tax Act, 75,092 persons were assessed—of which number, 27,814 were under £150 a year.

The *Univers* publishes a decree of the Holy Inquisition against a pastoral letter of certain bishops of Holland against the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception.

By order of the Postmaster-General, it is now arranged that all letters returned to that department shall be forwarded to the writers of them on the same day they are sent to the returned-letter department.

A new Bishopric of Teheran, *in partibus* of course, is to be instituted for the benefit of the Armenian Roman Catholic subjects of the Shah.

The *Sunderland Herald* says that about 200 pitmen, residing in and around Sunderland and Durham, are preparing to take flight in spring for Australia.

A comet was observed on the night of the 2nd of December, bearing about north-west, from Panama.

Alterations are being made in Whitecross-street Prison, with the view of a classification of persons confined for debt. It is in contemplation to classify debtors throughout England and Wales.

The *Sibylle*, French vessel of war, has been ordered to proceed from Bombay to the Persian Gulf to watch any future operations there, or possibly with reference to the claims of the French Government on the Isle of Karak.

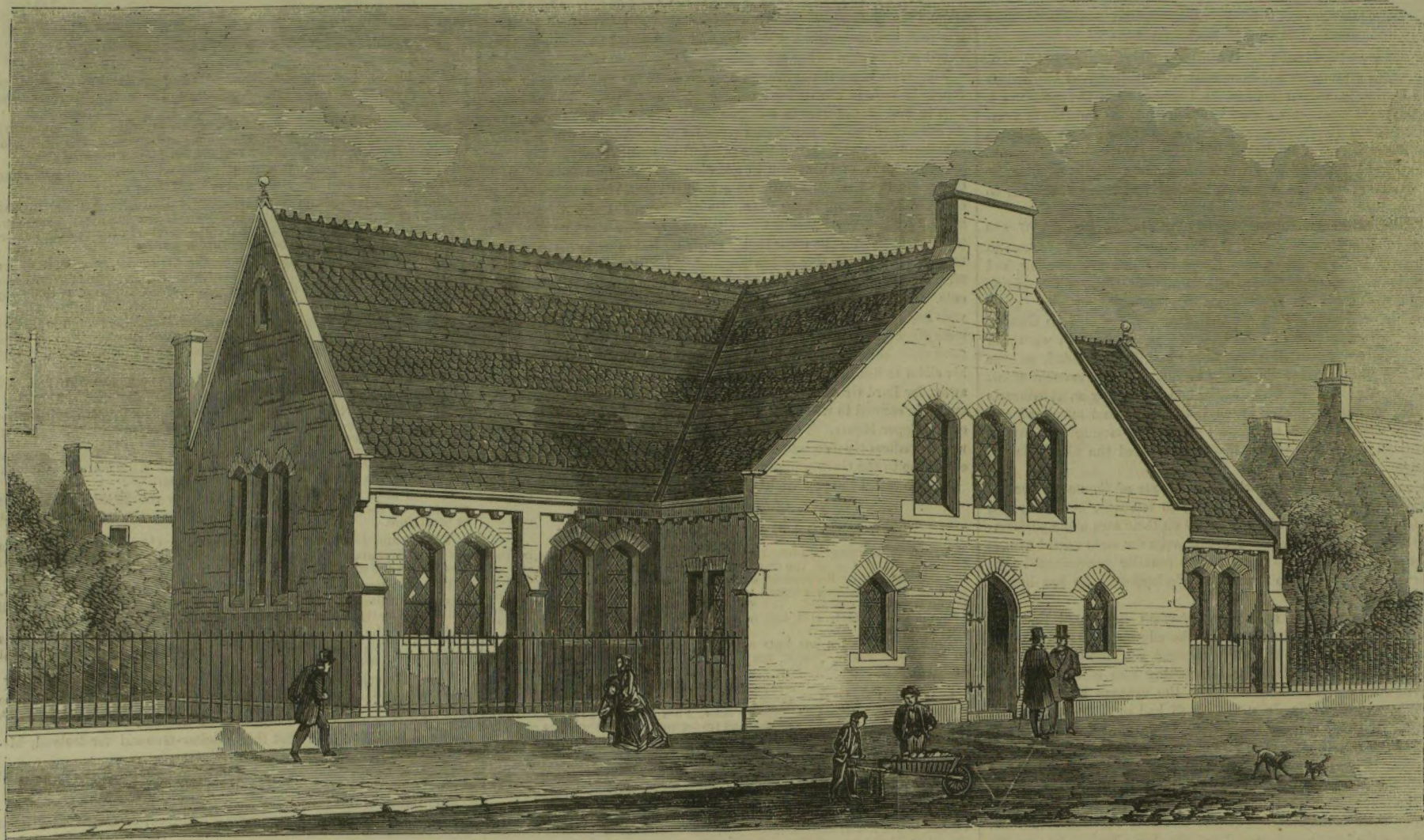
Peter McLean, convicted of the murder of Thomas Maxwell, miner, on the road leading from Bathgate to East Whitburn, in Linlithgowshire, on the 16th November last, was hanged at Linlithgow on Monday morning.

The County Court of New Kent County, Virginia, is engaged trying several negroes charged with inciting insurrection. One negro has been convicted, and is sentenced to be hanged, and it is supposed that another will meet the same fate.

The Grand Jury has returned six true bills for forgery and larceny against John Paul, late collector to the City of London Union.

Accounts from Athens to the 25th ult., state that the financial instructions of the protecting Powers have been communicated to King Otho. A Ministerial modification was expected.

The West Ham Distillery Company, which has given notice to supply customers this month, will, it is said, initiate its business with a dinner to sixty gentlemen in one of the mighty vats which form a portion of its enormous plant, newly erected at an expense of £30,000.



NEW SCHOOL-CHURCH OF ST. PETER'S, STEPNEY.

SCHOOL-CHURCH AT STEPNEY.

On Saturday, January 31, a school-church was publicly opened at St. Peter's, Stepney, by the Lord Bishop of London. This building, as its name denotes, includes the work of a school, and a means of bringing home to the labouring classes the services of the Church.

The district consists of 13,000, mostly of poor and labouring people, chiefly dock-labourers, and this room will enable the active and energetic pastor, the Rev. T. J. Rowsell—who has laboured most earnestly and successfully for thirteen years—to assist and instruct those who from various causes do not go to church. St. Peter's Church itself is always well filled, and on Sunday evenings crowded with poor; but this new room will enable many of the poorest to say prayers together with their pastor, and hear God's word read and preached.

The cost of the building is £1550. It was built by Mr. Charles Barry, and is a fine and well-proportioned room. A large and influential company assembled; and, after a very warm and affectionate address from the Bishop, he expressed his hearty approval and sanction to this work in all its bearings, specially sanctioning the use of the room, as an opportunity of guiding the recreation of the labouring people.

The Rev. T. J. Rowsell then addressed the meeting, and, in his usual peculiar style of eloquent affection, explained the objects for which the room had been built, the deep anxiety which attended the realisation of the necessary funds, and the absolute necessity which existed that the increasing wants of the poor for the services of the Church should be more generally felt and acknowledged. The rev. gentleman most powerfully depicted the sad and baneful effects of the system of sequestration which existed in the parish of Stepney, and which so vitally affected the true interests of the Church; and the enthusiastic plaudits which greeted this part of Mr. Rowsell's speech must have convinced the right rev. prelate how completely this pernicious system is detected in the neighbourhood in which it has now for some time been in operation.

He was succeeded by the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., who was warmly received, and his eloquent and touching speech was listened to with eager attention. He very earnestly set forth the duties of the West-end towards the East, and implored the richer members of the Church to act up to their solemn responsibilities. He reminded them that, being at a distance, instead of lessening, actually increased, the demands upon their love and co-operation as a locality thus deprived of the rich members were unable to cope with its difficulties.

The Rev. F. D. Maurice, in a few but touching remarks, said that the West-end had as much good to receive for themselves in their sympathy with and care for the real manful life of the East as it could bestow upon them by education and money.

The meeting was also addressed by the Rev. W. W. Champneys, W. Cotton, Esq., Rev. Dr. Hessey, and Mr. Churchwarden Lilley, who briefly expressed in the name of the people the happiness which they felt in the presence and kind sympathy of the Bishop, and also to those present whose Christian generosity had erected the building and testified the high esteem and deep affection which they entertained for their beloved pastor, and their appreciation of his excellent Church-teaching and his truly consistent life.

It was a gratifying day to the anxious Pastor of this densely-populated district, and also to his truly excellent wife, who fully participates in all his care and exertions for the welfare of his people, and whose large-hearted loving sympathy is deeply felt by all those who have the happy privilege of being brought within her influence; and it is hoped that the amount still due on account of this useful and necessary work, will be raised to ease the anxieties of the clergyman, and that some of the richer members of the Church of England will send help to this poor district, in which so arduous a task is being so actively set about. It deserves confidence and help. There will be here 1000 children under instruction in this one district, connected with St. Peter's Church.

HALSTEAD HALL, NEAR HORNCastle.

ABOUT an hour before midnight on Sunday, the 7th of December last, the inhabitants of the village of Stixwold were aroused from sleep by an alarm of fire. The stackyard at Halstead, about three-quarters of a mile from the village, was enveloped in flame, and the produce of more than one hundred acres of valuable corn was, in a very brief period, completely destroyed. The area of flame exceeded that produced by the largest fires in Manchester, or Liverpool. As the wind was almost a hurricane from S.W., and the yard had been fired right in the wind's eye, it was impossible to save more than the two cornstacks, and the fine old barn and outbuildings, which are not shown in the Sketch. A reward of £100 has been offered for the discovery of the incendiary. Hitherto no clue has been found, although Mr. Hitchins, the able Coroner for this part of Lincolnshire, held an inquest, and made a most searching investigation.

About thirty years since a burglary with violence was committed at Halstead, which was then in the occupation of Mr. W. Elsey. Three of the offenders were executed, and two transported.

Halstead appears in former times to have been a much larger house. It was the residence of the family of Townshend, as the following extract from the parish register shows:—

Mr. George Townshend, Esq., died at Halstead, and was buried at Waddingworth, on Wensdaie nighte, the Xijth of February, 1627.

Another extract from the register will show that ill-assorted marriages occurred in the good old times:—

Marrages: Anno 1621.

Francis Fawcett, of the age of 93 years, married to Anne Hemidge, of the age of 21 years, upon Safer Daie, the 27th Daie of January, 1621.

It appears, however, that the bliss of the venerable bridegroom was but of short duration, by the next entry:—

Burials, Anno 1621.

Francis Fawcett, the above named, was buried the 8th day of February, 1621; having been but 12 daies married.

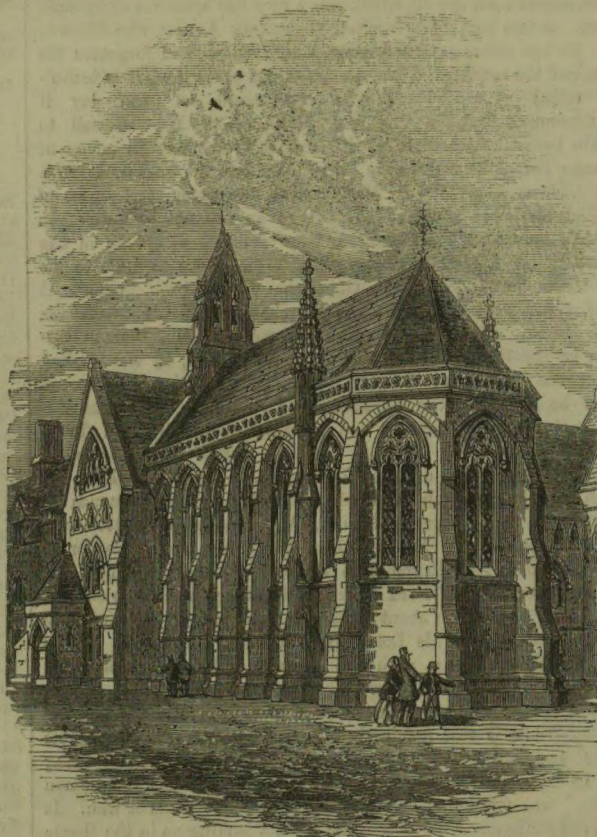
CLERGY ORPHAN SCHOOLS, CANTERBURY.

The erection of these Schools originated in the accommodation for children in the schools of the Clergy Orphan Corporation at St. John's Wood having become insufficient. It was, therefore, determined to appropriate that building exclusively to girls, and to erect elsewhere a school sufficiently large to contain 200 boys, and fitted up for the immediate reception of at least one-half that number. The Rev. Dr. Warneford, with characteristic munificence, provided a site at Canterbury, at a cost of upwards of £3000, and also offered £4000 towards the erection of a new school for boys, together with £6000 to found scholarships.

On June 29th, 1854, Dr. Blomfield, Bishop of London, laid the first stone of the boys' school, on the site given, at St. Thomas's-hill, Canterbury. The building is calculated for the reception of 120 boys, but is so arranged that it can be enlarged to receive 200.

Mr. P. C. Hardwick was the architect; Mr. Kelk [was the contractor. The amount of contract is £15,000. The materials are Kentish rag and Caen stone. The dormitories extend over the whole of the upper story. Each boy has a separate cubicle, which is formed by partitions, about 7 feet high; and a separate infirmary is provided.

As the number of children which the buildings of the Corporation will in future be able to admit is nearly double what it has hitherto been, a proportionate increase in the annual subscriptions or permanent income is indispensably necessary in order to maintain the institution in efficiency. The object is an excellent one, and should have general support.



THE CLERGY ORPHAN SCHOOLS, CANTERBURY: THE CHAPEL.

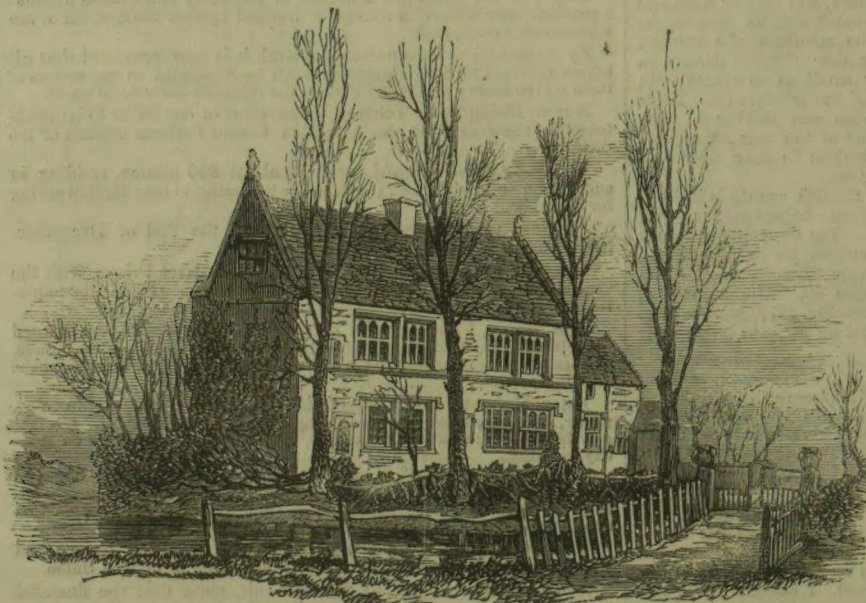
The Clergy Orphan Schools were originally founded A.D. 1749, and incorporated 1809.

The cost of the new building at Canterbury will be £15,500, exclusive of the expenses of furnishing; and of the Chapel, which, with its fittings, is estimated at £3000.

The girls, continuing at St. John's Wood, will thus have the accommodation which has been long and greatly needed; and provision will also be made for an addition to their numbers, for which the growing necessities of the clergy urgently call.

REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS.—The *Moniteur* of Saturday last publishes a decree reducing the strength of the army, with a view to place it upon a peace footing. The official journal says:—"In order to gradually reduce the army to a peace footing, the Emperor has just ordered 46,000 temporary and renewable furloughs to be granted. Similar ones to the number of 95,000 had been previously issued, making the total of the soldiers thus sent to their homes for an unlimited period 141,000. These 46,000 new furloughs are to be divided among the classes of 1850, 1851, 1852, and 1853, according to a list drawn up by the Minister of War."

FRENCH GAMBLING.—I understand that the recent circular against gambling in clubs was provoked by a catastrophe affecting persons connected with the Court. Stories have been told of young men having lost 40,000 and 50,000 francs, and of marriages having been broken off in consequence; but people now speak of 800,000 francs having been lost in a single evening, and of a very high personage having been compelled to interfere personally to square the account.—*Letter from Paris.*

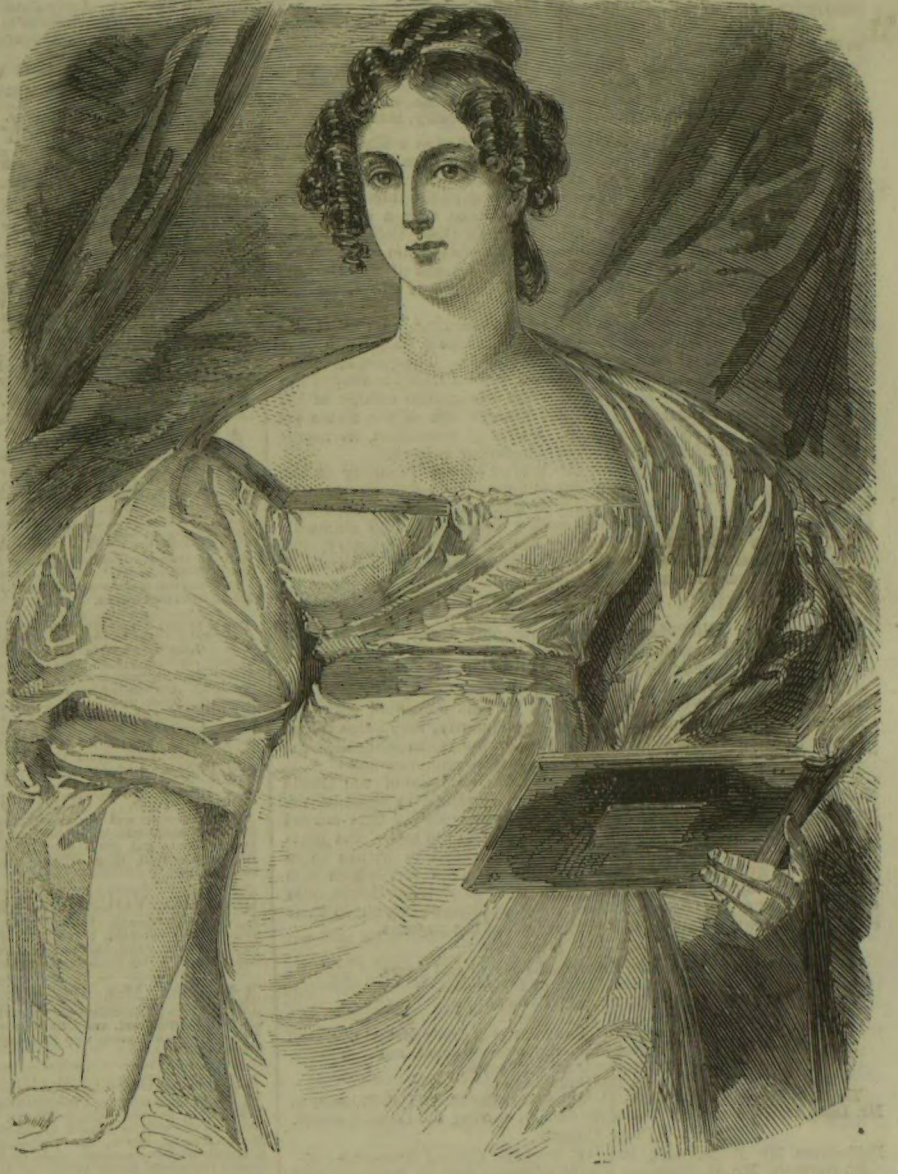


HALSTEAD HALL, NEAR HORNCastle.

LYING-IN-STATE AND FUNERAL OF THE LATE DUKE OF RUTLAND, K.G.



THE LATE DUKE OF RUTLAND, K.G.—FROM THE PORTRAIT BY G. SANDERS.



THE LATE DUCHESS OF RUTLAND.—FROM THE PORTRAIT BY G. SANDERS.

THE sympathy and sorrowful interest attached to the last honours to the remains of John Henry, the fifth Duke of Rutland, would, if proof were wanting, testify the reverential affection in which his Grace was held by all around him. In an eloquent *éloge* in the *Derbyshire Advertiser* he is worthily characterised by the writer, Spencer T. Hall, as "a man who would in any circumstances have been an ornament to humanity. There was that in him which would have given dignity to the most humble, as it threw a halo round the very lofty position to which, in the order of Providence, he was born. He respected himself, but scorned no one; and all who knew him justly loved him. Intense in his affections and firm in his principles, he was

in his domestic relations a model, in his friendships unfaltering, and in his patriotism, if not unequalled, at least unsurpassed, by any nobleman of his day."

THE LYING-IN-STATE.

The first portion of the funeral ceremonies—the Lying-in-State—took place on Tuesday and Wednesday week (Jan. 27 and 28), at Belvoir Castle; when, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, 1037 persons attended the first day, and 2674 on the second; making a total of nearly 4000 visitors, nine-tenths of whom were tenants and their families. It formed the subject of general remark that the first

five men who presented themselves for admission at ten o'clock on Tuesday morning were five labourers from the Duke's estates in Rutlandshire, who had consequently walked a distance of twenty-six miles to pay their last tribute of respect; and who, as they returned to their homes the same evening, actually performed a day's journey of fifty-two miles on foot to accomplish this act of personal devotion.

On arriving at the castle the tenantry and other visitors were conducted through the porch along the entrance passage into the guard-room; here the approaches and walls were hung with black drapery. The coffin was placed on an elevated bier in the space at the foot of the guard-room staircases, which was also surrounded with black cloth



FUNERAL OF THE LATE DUKE OF RUTLAND: TENANTRY GOING TO THE LYING-IN-STATE, AT BELVOIR CASTLE.

On the first night of the Session Mr. Disraeli made an accusation against the Government which would have been highly damaging had it possessed the simple, but essential, requisite of being true. He asserted that at the very time when Lord Clarendon and the Conference of Paris were debating on the affairs of Italy, with a view to the reformation of the system pursued by the King of Naples, the British and French Governments, with the cognisance and of course the approbation, of Lord Palmerston, had entered into a secret treaty with Austria, guaranteeing to that Power the undisturbed possession of Lombardy and Venice. Lord Palmerston met this statement by a curt and energetic denial; and the damage sought to be inflicted upon the Government by the leader of the Opposition recoiled upon himself. An idea so preposterous ought to have been refused a lodging in a brain generally so clear and well-ordered as that of Mr. Disraeli; but somehow or other it crept in,—or was foisted in by some of the second-rate politicians and first-rate intriguers whose acquaintance the right honourable gentleman made during his recent visit to Paris. Whether Lord Palmerston succeeded in expelling it is a matter of no great moment; for, if Mr. Disraeli still retain the opinion, he has a monopoly of it. At the present moment the retention of Lombardy and Venice by Austria is the greatest danger that menaces the peace of Europe; and although Lord Palmerston—like other British, and no doubt many French, statesmen—would be glad if the Italians would be reconciled to that extraneous rule, and look with respect—not to say with gratitude—upon the hated presence of the “*Tedeschi*,” he would not, if possessed of but one lingering remnant of common sense, enter into any compact for the support of a system with which England has nothing to do, and which is as unnatural in itself as it is odious, galling, and intolerable to those who are its victims. The Lombardo-Venetians are not, and never will be, reconciled to the dominion of Austria. In vain the Emperor may seek to gain their good will; in vain he may issue his amnesties to the nobles; in vain, if they remain disaffected, he may threaten, as he did but the other day, to let loose the mob and the canaille upon them, to commit horrors and atrocities equal to those which, at his instigation, were committed, for similar reasons, upon the murdered nobles of Galicia. The Italians will only submit while resistance is impossible. They look with hope to the future to free them from an oppression which all the world admits to be cruel, but which they feel to be both cruel and humiliating. To guarantee to Austria the possession of those provinces would be to guarantee the perpetuity of tyranny and misrule, not only in the north of Italy, but in the Two Sicilies, in the Papal States, and throughout every part of the Peninsula, except in Piedmont. It is the misfortune of the house of Hapsburg to be lords of Italy, and to be unable with safety either to retain or to forego possession. But Austria must pay the penalty of her position. All that she can ask of Great Britain, however closely she may be allied with us, is to hold aloof. There was a time when a chance offered of removing the difficulty. Whether it were the fault of Austria or of Great Britain that advantage was not taken of it is known but to few; but as the project would have involved the humiliation of Russia, for whom, even at the height and fury of the late war, our statesmen of all parties had an unaccountable and most mysterious tenderness, it is probable that this country was not wholly guiltless of having allowed the opportunity to slip away unheeded. To have given Austria the mouths of the Danube in exchange for North Italy, and to have compensated the Sultan at the expense of Russia, would have been an arrangement beneficial to Europe; but, partly by the cowardice and timidity of Austria herself, and partly by the determination of Englishmen, high in power and in office, to “put out” the war and save Russia from dismemberment, the golden hour was lost. It is not likely that it will ever again return; and Austria must bear the burden and the penalty of retaining Lombardy and Venice in defiance of the prejudices, the interests, the passions, and the reason of a noble, though unhappy, people. The free white men of the United States of America could scarcely look with more disgust and abhorrence on subjection to an overwhelming force of negroes than the Italians look upon their forced subjection to the Germans. It is not a relationship of citizen to citizen, but of

conqueror to the conquered, and of the master to the slave; with the additional bitterness that the conquered knows himself to be the better and the nobler of the two. When the day comes for the inevitable struggle, if Mr. Disraeli be still in existence, let us hope that he will have as much sympathy for the Italians as he expresses now, and that if he should happen to be in office he will give neither sympathy nor support to the oppressors of Italy.

SHOULD circumstances bring about within any reasonable time the restoration to power of the Earl of Derby and Mr. Disraeli, it is clear, from what took place in the Commons on Tuesday night, that the future Chancellor of the Exchequer of the party is not to be Mr. Disraeli, but Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Disraeli aspires to the post so long and so ably occupied by Lord Palmerston, and at present so worthily filled by the Earl of Clarendon; and will not again consent to discharge the useful and laborious functions of Financial Minister. These functions allow of no exercise of the romantic faculty which Lord Palmerston so justly concedes to him, and demand a greater and stricter appreciation of dry facts than seems to his present taste. Mr. Disraeli, having resolved to fight the battle of his party on the question of the Property and Income Tax, and to designate Mr. Gladstone as his Chancellor of the Exchequer Elect, has placed two resolutions on the paper, which are to be discussed on the 17th instant. The first is to express the opinion of the House that the taxes which have been granted in a time of war for the purpose of carrying on the war should not be levied in a period of profound peace. The second is to the effect that the House should express its opinion that the settlement of 1853, proposed by the right hon. gentleman the member for the University of Oxford (Mr. Gladstone), should be adhered to.

It would have been better if Mr. Disraeli had waited to hear the intentions of the actual holder of the seals of the Exchequer before bringing forward his resolutions; but it is at all events an advantage to know in the mean time whether the small but compact party called the Peelites are to stand between the Government and the Opposition, inclining to neither, or whether they have made up their minds to coalesce with either the one or the other. Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Gladstone have lost no time in letting the country know how the matter stands; and we may gather from Mr. Disraeli's resolutions, no less than from Mr. Gladstone's speech, that the Peelites are about to lose their distinctive character, and to merge into that great and respectable Conservative party from which they sprung. It is a simplification very much to be desired; and will give Mr. Gladstone and his friends a far better chance of a future career of public usefulness than they could have hoped to obtain in the sulky and impracticable isolation to which, since the late war showed their incapacity to rise to the height of a great occasion, they seemed bent upon dooming themselves. As a peace financier Mr. Gladstone will be highly commended by all who remember the excellent Budget which he presented in 1853; as a war financier he made a palpable failure, and inflicted upon his reputation a damage from which it has not yet recovered. But it has to be shown that the financial circumstances of 1857 are similar to the financial circumstances of 1853 before Parliament will agree in the later year to a Budget that was sufficient for the earlier one. We will not deny that Mr. Gladstone's arrangement of the Property and Income Tax is *per se* to be infinitely preferred to that of Sir G. C. Lewis. To pay sevenpence in the pound is less irksome than to pay sixteenpence, especially when the sevenpence promises to reduce itself to fivepence, and to vanish altogether in a year or two. But in such matters as these the cart cannot be placed before the horse. The country must hear what the actual Chancellor of the Exchequer has to say or do about the war ninepence, and the vanishing sevenpence, and be enabled to see his Budget as a whole before it can listen to the clever but impatient ex-Chancellors, who have laid their heads together to impede the public business. The world is interested in the coalition which they have formed and divulged; but it is not at present interested in any financial schemes which they may have elaborated to show their own dexterity.

THE COURT.

The Royal hospitalities of Windsor Castle have been continued during the week; and on Thursday the guests were entertained by a grand theatrical representation of Shakspeare's "Richard III." in St. George's Hall.

On Sunday the Queen and the Prince, the elder portion of the Royal family, the Duchess of Kent, the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, and Princess Amelie of Hohenlohe-Schillingfürst, the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service in the private chapel of the Castle. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor performed the service, and administered the Holy Sacrament.

On Monday the Queen held a Privy Council, at which the Royal Speech on the opening of Parliament was approved of by her Majesty. At the Council the Queen appointed the Sheriffs for the various counties of England and Wales for the present year. The Duke of Newcastle having been appointed Lord Lieutenant of the county of Nottingham, his Grace was sworn into that office; and Sir Alexander Cockburn, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, was sworn of her Majesty's Privy Council, and took his place at the Board. Viscount Castlereagh kissed hands on his appointment as Comptroller of the Royal Household. In the evening their Serene Highnesses the Princess of Hohenlohe-Langenburg and Princess Feodora dined with her Majesty.

On Tuesday the Queen walked in the grounds adjoining the Castle. His Royal Highness Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales skated on the ice in the Home Park. The Princess Victoria Gauromma of Coorg and Mrs. Drummond, and Rear-Admiral Sir Houston Stewart, arrived on a visit.

On Wednesday the Queen walked in the Castle grounds, while Prince Albert and the Prince of Wales enjoyed the diversion of skating. Earl Spencer, Lord Steward of the Household, had an audience of her Majesty, to present the Address from the House of Lords in answer to the Speech from the Throne.

On Thursday a large accession of visitors arrived at the Castle. The Duchess of Wellington has succeeded the Countess of Desart as Lady in Waiting to her Majesty. Major-General the Hon. C. Grey and Lieutenant-Colonel Ponsonby have succeeded Major-General Buckley and Colonel F. H. Seymour as Equerries in Waiting to her Majesty and his Royal Highness Prince Albert.

The Countess Granville "received" on Monday evening, after a Parliamentary banquet given by the noble Earl to a large party of Ministerial Peers. The Premier gave a grand dinner on the same evening to a party of Liberal members of the House of Commons chiefly attached to the Government. The Earl of Derby and Mr. Disraeli respectively entertained large parties of their political adherents on the same evening.

The marriage of the Countess Hélène Kielmansegg with Lord Arthur Hay will take place on the 17th instant.

Viscountess Palmerston has issued cards for assemblies on every Saturday during the present month.

The marriage of Lord Alfred Churchill with the Hon. Miss Calthorpe took place on Thursday at St. George's Church, Hanover-square.

The newly-created office of Vice-President of the Committee of Council on Education has been filled by Mr. Cowper, who has been succeeded as President of the Board of Health by Mr. Monsell, late Secretary of the Ordnance.

THE COLOURED SUPPLEMENT

PUBLISHED WITH

THE PRESENT NUMBER OF THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.

THE accompanying Portrait of her Most Gracious Majesty has been copied from a picture, painted in pastel by Mr. Alexander Blaikley, of the Review of the Guards in Hyde-park, in July last, on their return from the Crimea; this being the latest occasion of her Majesty's appearance in public. The characteristic frame has been designed by T. R. Macquoid.

Alexandrina Victoria, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, is the only daughter and heir of the late Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, fourth son of King George III., and of Victoria Maria Louisa (Princess Dowager of Leiningen), Duchess of Kent, and sister of the King of the Belgians. Her Majesty was born at Kensington Palace, on the 24th of May, 1819; baptised on the 24th of June, 1819; ascended the throne on the demise of her uncle, King William IV., 20th of June, 1837; and was crowned at Westminster, on the 28th of June, 1838.

Her Majesty was married at St. James's Palace, on the 10th of February, 1840, to Prince Albert of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, born August 26, 1819. Her Majesty has had issue: Victoria Adelaide Mary Louisa, born Nov. 21, 1840 (Princess Royal); Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, born Nov. 9, 1841; Alice Maud Mary, born April 25, 1843; Alfred Ernest Albert, born August 6, 1844; Helena Augusta Victoria, born May 25, 1846; Louisa Caroline Alberta, born March 18, 1848; Arthur William Patrick Albert, born May 1, 1850; Leopold George Duncan Albert, born April 7, 1853. These several children were born at Buckingham Palace, with the exception of the Prince of Wales, whose birth and baptism took place at Windsor Castle.

THE LORD CHANCELLOR.

THE RIGHT HON. ROBERT MONSEY ROLFE, LORD CRANWORTH, LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR OF GREAT BRITAIN—whose Portrait we this day present to our subscribers—is one of the few instances of a law officer of the Crown having passed through every grade of the judicial office before he attained his present rank. Attorney-Generals or Solicitor-Generals are more in the habit of leaping *per saltum* from the Bar to the offices of Chief Justice or Chancellor. His Lordship is the eldest son of the Rev. Edmund Rolfe, of Cranworth, Norfolk, by the daughter of William Alexander, brother of the Earl of Caledon. He boasts also the blood of Nelson in his veins, his grandfather having married a niece of the famous Admiral.

Lord Cranworth was born in 1790, and was educated at a school at Bury St. Edmunds, and afterwards at Trinity College, Cambridge. In 1812 he graduated B.A., and was elected a Fellow of Downing College. He took his degree of M.A. in 1815, and in 1816 was called to the Bar at Lincoln's-inn. In 1832 he was made a Queen's Counsel; and in the same year was elected as the representative of Penryn in Parliament. During his career at the bar he was well known in the profession as a sound lawyer and a painstaking advocate. But it is not denied that his position did not, in the eyes of his contemporaries, quite justify his elevation to the office of Solicitor-General by Lord Melbourne's Government in 1834; and there were not wanting persons who attributed his promotion more to his having a safe seat for Penryn than to his professional standing. He occupied that office until 1839, when, with a modesty not too characteristic of Solicitor-Generals, he accepted the office of a Baron of the Court of Exchequer; singularly enough, on the death of Mr. Baron Garrow, who had set an example of humility in law officers of the Crown by accepting a Puisne Judgeship at a time that he held the post of Attorney-General. It was intended that Mr. Baron Rolfe should chiefly be occupied in the business of the equity side of the Court of Exchequer, for which his antecedents qualified him, but the abolition of that branch of the Court in a short time afterwards placed him entirely in the position of a Common Law Judge; and it is mere justice to him to state that in a very brief period he acquired a reputation which enabled him to hold his own by the side of such Judges as Parke and Alderson. His readiness in the trial of causes and prisoners at first caused some surprise, until it was recollected that he had for many years sat judicially as Recorder of Norwich, and so obtained that insight into the mode of dealing with evidence and juries which is not commonly an advantage possessed by members of the Chancery bar. On the retirement of Lord Cottenham in 1850 from the Chancellorship, Mr. Baron Rolfe was appointed a Commissioner of the Great Seal, and sat for a few weeks in that capacity in conjunction with the late Lord Langdale, then Master of the Rolls.

On the retirement of Sir James Wigram, in the same year, he was removed from the Exchequer to the Court of Chancery, and appointed a Vice-Chancellor. Shortly afterwards he was raised to the Peerage by the title of Baron Cranworth. In the following year, the new Court of Appeal in Chancery being constituted, Lord Cranworth was appointed one of the Lord Justices; having Sir J. Knight Bruce as his colleague. The sphere of his labours was still further enlarged in the year 1852, when he was chosen to be the Chancellor of the Coalition Ministry of Lord Aberdeen; and on the reconstruction of the Government in February, 1855, he retained his office under Lord Palmerston. As a Judge Lord Cranworth has always exhibited sterling qualities. With an adequate professional knowledge he unites plain good sense, an evident desire to do justice, an admirably-regulated temper, and the most indomitable patience and industry. At the same time he is not wanting in firmness and self-reliance, qualities which have been found not unnecessary in his association with more than one member both of the Bench and the Bar, in the Courts of Law and in the House of Lords. His decisions when sitting alone in Equity as a Judge of Appeal have generally given satisfaction; and indeed it has been sometimes urged that the Court of the Chancellor was on the whole a safer one than that of the other branch of the Court of Appeal.

As Speaker of the House of Lords the Chancellor's duties are comparatively light, their Lordships by usage exercising a kind of republican jurisdiction over their own proceedings. As a debater Lord Cranworth is more ready and more fluent than either Lord Cottenham or Lord St. Leonards; but the distance between his oratory and that of Lord Lyndhurst, is sufficiently wide. The Chancellor is rather small in person, but he is still exceedingly active, and his industry and assiduity show no symptom of abatement. It has, however, been more than once rumoured that he has expressed a wish to retire from the cares of office; but those reports have been generally coeval with his comparative failures as a law reformer, and may, therefore, be traceable to some connection with that subject. His Lordship married, in 1845, Laura, the daughter of T. W. Carr, Esq.; but has no issue.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES SHAW LEFEVRE—whose likeness in these pages will at once be recognised by all who have had the pleasure of seeing him—has occupied the chair of the House of Commons since 1839, when, on the retirement of Mr. Abercromby, he was elected Speaker by 317 votes to 299—his opponent being the late Mr. Goulburn. Mr. Shaw Lefevre was born in 1794: he is the eldest son of Mr. Shaw Lefevre, who was a member of the House of Commons for twenty-six years. The right hon. gentleman was educated at Winchester, and Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1819, and was called to the Bar in the same year. Before the Reform Bill he sat for the borough of Downton, and afterwards for Hampshire; and in 1832 was returned for North Hampshire, for which division of the county he was re-elected without opposition in the years 1835, 1839, 1841, 1847, and 1852. He has always been an advanced Whig, proposing himself a change in the Corn-laws and a partial repeal of the Malt-tax as early as 1836; while he was always in favour of Reform, short Parliaments, and a removal of religious disabilities. Besides discharging his laborious functions in the House of Commons, he fills the offices of High Steward of Winchester and Chairman of the Hants Quarter Session; and commands, with exemplary zeal and ability, the Hants Yeomanry Cavalry. Mr. Shaw Lefevre has every qualification for the high office which he holds. To a perfect knowledge of the laws and customs of Parliament, he adds great dignity, combined with suavity of manner and the most ad-

mirable command of temper; nor should his fine person and sonorous voice be overlooked in enumerating a catalogue of qualities which go to make up a first-rate Speaker. It is believed that he has never had the slightest personal difference with any member of the House over which he has presided for so many successive Sessions and Parliaments; nor has one of his decisions been ever seriously impugned. It is generally supposed that with the close of the present Parliament he will accept the Peerage and pension he has honourably won, and leave the House of Commons to the difficulty of appointing an adequate successor to him. It may be added that he is the eldest brother of Sir John Shaw Lefevre, the Clerk of Parliaments, and that he married, in 1817, Emma, daughter of Samuel Whitbread, Esq. It is also worthy of notice that out of sixty-two Speakers who have presided over the House of Commons, Mr. Shaw Lefevre's reign has been the longest but one of the whole. But the amount of work done during his Speakership has been far greater than that of several others put together. As far as we can ascertain he has already sat for above 18,000 hours in the chair itself, without reckoning the laborious attendance in his official room during hours when the House is not actually sitting in debate.

CRIMINALS IN ENGLAND.

THE official tables of criminals in England and Wales for 1855 were published on Tuesday, thirteen months after the close of the year. From 1842, when the commitments reached 31,309, to 1853, they declined sensibly, and, with the exception of the politically-excited period, 1848, continually. In 1854, however, there was a great rise in the price of food, and a considerable increase of commitments, which made inquirers look forward to the returns for 1855 with increased interest and some anxiety. The edge of their impatience was blunted by the statement made last year by Mr. Waddington, the Under Secretary of State, to the Transportation Committee, that the number of commitments had decreased considerably in 1855. This acceptable information is now confirmed. "The commitments for trial, which suddenly increased 8.5 per cent in the year 1854, show a decrease of 3387 persons, or 11.5 per cent, in 1855." This comparison, however, requires to be corrected. The Criminal Justice Act, passed in 1855, and brought into operation in the latter part of the year, enabled the Courts to punish 2476 cases of petty larceny summarily, which but for this Act would have added so many to the number of commitments in the year. Making this and some other minute corrections to which it is not necessary to advert, the result is a considerable diminution of offenders in 1855 as compared to 1854. The decrease was conspicuous in the metropolitan and manufacturing counties, and in six agricultural counties, while in others there was a considerable increase. These returns, it must be remembered, concern 1855, and do not in any way affect the conviction now prevalent that crimes have, in 1856, increased both in number and virulence. At the same time it seems probable that the great diminution of crimes between 1842 and 1854 may make the young at present look with dread and horror at numerous offences with which their fathers had grown only too familiar.

In crimes against the person there was a slight increase in 1855, as also of burglary; while there was a large decrease in housebreaking, and generally of violent and malicious offences against property, with a large decrease also of simple thefts. The peculiar and prevailing crime of the community is not always on the increase; and the decrease now noticed is correctly attributed in part to the war having absorbed, in 1855, a considerable amount of half-employed or surplus labour. Carried on by loans and by the Income-tax, with only a small increase of taxes on consumption, it directed an increased proportion of the general wealth to the employment of mere manual labour, and so, for the moment, it lessened poverty and lessened crime. It is very satisfactory to learn that, comparing the commitments for the five years, 1846-51, with the commitments of the five years, 1851-55, there was, "without making allowance for population," a slight decrease in the latter period; and this decrease was "most marked" in the metropolitan county.

The capital convictions—fifty in 1855—were less than the average of the preceding ten years, 55; seven persons were executed for murder, two of whom were foreigners, which was more than the number executed in 1854, in 1850, and in 1846, but less than the number executed in any other year of the last ten years. Of the other persons punished, 323 were transported, and 2041 were condemned to penal servitude for different periods, while no less than 17,327 were sentenced to imprisonment; and of them not less than 16,561 were imprisoned for a year or some shorter period, 5027 being imprisoned for three months and less. Is it not a wicked policy to corrupt such a vast number of persons, most of them young, by sending them to gaol for short periods? Would it not be better to whip them and send them forth no further contaminated, to repent and amend in the correcting bosom of society? Of course, the many persons summarily punished are imprisoned, as the rule, for still shorter periods, and, if our goals be colleges where youths graduate into criminals, as has been said, is not our system much to blame for the increase of crime?

TREATY FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE SOUND DUES.—The outline of the treaty about to be concluded between Denmark and the various European Powers trading with the Baltic for the redemption of the Sound Dues has been published. The preamble states that, with a view to facilitate and increase the commercial and maritime relations at present existing between Denmark and the other contracting States, these parties have agreed to negotiate a treaty for abolishing the dues levied on ships and their cargoes passing through the Sound and the Belts, and for diminishing the transit duty payable on goods passing overland from the German Ocean to the Baltic. In the first article the King of Denmark undertakes for the future not to levy any duty under the name of customs, tonnage, or for lighthouses, buoys, &c., on any vessels, or their cargoes, passing from the German Ocean to the Baltic, or vice versa. By way of compensation, the States entering into this treaty with Denmark promise to pay the latter the sum of 30,570,698 rix dollars, according to various quotas already agreed upon, and with the provision that each State is liable only for its own quota. The various amounts are to be paid within twenty years, in forty half-yearly equal instalments, which shall include the portion of the capital due and the interest that accrues on the outstanding balance.

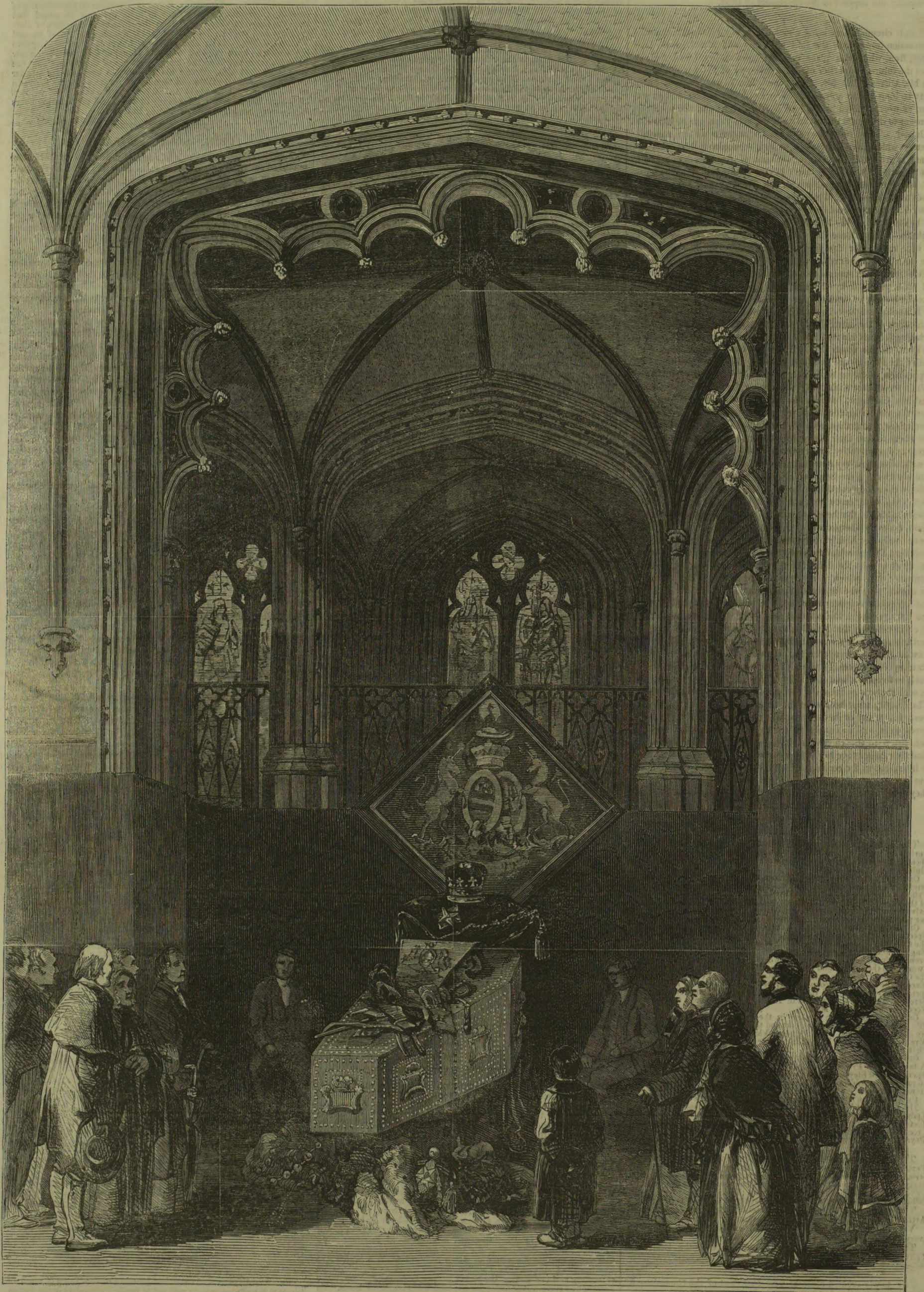
We learn from a private letter that Miss Burdett Coutts has recently presented to the Queen three clever Australian landscapes, painted in Australia, by Marshall Claxton.

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—The shareholders in this railway have recently received a pamphlet recording the efforts of the committee of proprietors appointed at the last half-yearly meeting of the company at Bristol to introduce a more safe and practical element into the constitution of the board of management, and the resistance of the directors to the changes proposed. As the questions in dispute are of great public interest, and are referred by both parties to the decision of the general body of shareholders at their approaching half-yearly meeting on Friday, the 13th of February next, we have no doubt the attendance will be very great. All who intend to be present ought to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with the merits of the great question at issue.

NEWPORT ELECTION.—We perceive from the Southampton papers that Mr. Seeley continues to meet with a hearty reception at the various meetings of the Liberal party which he has been holding lately. On Monday evening week a numerous and influential meeting was held at the Swan Inn, High-street, Newport, which was crowded to suffocation, while numbers were forced to go away for want of room. Mr. Seeley, in the course of his address, said the result of his canvass had been most satisfactory—so much so, indeed, that he expected a most triumphant result on the day of election.

DR. LIVINGSTON.—At the last meeting of the Town Council of Glasgow it was unanimously resolved to confer the freedom of the city on Dr. Livingston, the distinguished African traveller, who is a native of the neighbouring parish of Blantyre.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE DUKE OF RUTLAND, K.G.



THE LYING-IN-STATE AT BELVOIR CASTLE. — (SEE PAGE 103.)

FUNERAL OF THE LATE DUKE OF RUTLAND, K.G.



THE PROCESSION TO THE MAUSOLEUM. —(SEE PAGE 5)

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

PARLIAMENT met on Tuesday, and for the first time the thunder-tones of the "Warner" (as the great bell ought, in justice to its founder, to be called) were heard at a ceremonial appertaining to the edifice to which the bell itself belongs. The Queen's Speech was read by the Lord Chancellor. The debate on the Address brought out the leading men of each party. Mr. Gladstone, in a clever speech, indicated his intention of co-operating in certain points with his old friends the Conservatives. Mr. Disraeli made a long and vituperative attack upon the foreign policy of the Cabinet, to which we refer here chiefly in order to note that he distinctly declared that he "had seen" the treaty by which France guaranteed to Austria her Italian dominions. Lord Palmerston's reply was, "Then I have not." The words are not given by the metropolitan reporters, but appear in the *Manchester Times*. The fact is worth note, because the Premier replied to Mr. Disraeli with a certain superior manner, which, were not Lord Palmerston the incarnation of good nature, one might call insolence, and treated the whole story of the treaty as a *canard*. Mr. Disraeli says that he has seen it. In the Lords there was a division on the Address, Lord Grey offering an unconcerted opposition, and obtaining a small minority. In the Commons the Address was unanimously agreed to; but motions, hostile to several of its postulates, were set down for speedy battle.

The severe weather which has recently set in is occasioning great distress among the humbler classes, especially among the labourers whose work is suspended by frost. In some parts of London they are parading the streets, singing dismal appeals to charity, and they are also applying in great numbers to the workhouses. Much relief is thus given, but the applicants are not in all cases willing to submit to the work required of them before they receive succour. Some of this resistance is no doubt offered by idlers, who would eat without working; but in other cases it is made by men who have been accustomed to work requiring sensitiveness of hand, and who find the stone-breaking hammer destroy the very quality essential to their obtaining employment hereafter. It is lamentable to see a skilled artisan sit down to a heap of stones, and it is to be wished that some other form of test could be devised. The general cry among these men is for help to emigrate, and it is a cry which ought not to be disregarded. In the mean time private charity is making exertions for the unfortunate; and we would earnestly counsel those who can give money, but not time, to confide their liberality to the judicious administration of "the sitting magistrates." In no quarter will it be more surely dispensed to the deserving, and withheld from the professional mendicant.

Verger's head has fallen; and the sentence was well deserved. But his example has been followed, and an attempt has been made to murder the Archbishop of Matera—a Canon who sought to save his chief being shot dead. The mode in which the French assassin was convicted has occasioned great indignation, even in those who could not conscientiously have held out a finger to save his life. The Church had sufficient influence to procure the suppression of testimony which Verger desired, and had a right to call. It was understood that the revelations which he would have elicited as to the vicious lives of clerical personages would have brought so much scandal upon the Church—not, just now, in the best odour with society—that it was desirable, at any price of injustice, to prevent so damaging an examination. Morally gagged, therefore, Verger went to the guillotine. He seems to have had a great terror of death; and this may be taken as further evidence that his insanity had ample "method" in it.

All the details of the capture of Bushire show that the Indian army understands its business. All its arrangements were complete, and, when the time came for the rush upon the place, every part of the assaulting force knew its duty, and did it. Our own men and the Sepoys vied with each other in bravery, and no military operation was ever conducted with more skill and valour in union. The proof is in the speedy reduction of Bushire, with a very slight loss to the attackers and a very heavy one to the defenders. The feat was performed by Indian officers; and we do not learn that any of them quarrelled and abused each other to the Commander, or that any one of them neglected his men and remained on board one of the expeditionary ships, that the soldiers were exposed to unnecessary hardships, or that proper food and ammunition were not supplied to them. But then the leaders were only "Indian officers," and had not been trained under a system. Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch, who, by the way, reiterate all the charges in their Crimean Report, and tear the ridiculous business at Chelsea to tatters, would have had no complaint to make of the way Indian campaigners go to work.

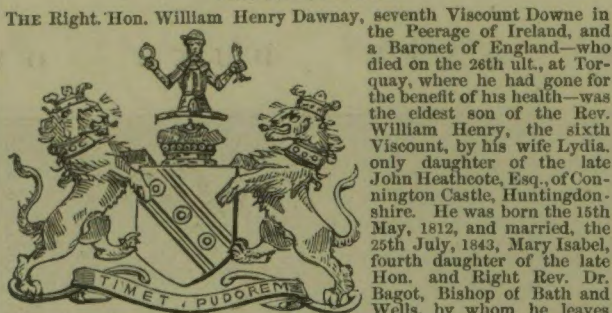
A deputation on the paper duties has waited on the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and has brought before him the case for the abolition, in a forcible manner, with *vivæ voce* testimony in its favour. Sir G. C. Lewis admitted that some very strong facts had been brought to his notice, and that the subject should receive full consideration; but he gave the intimation which, of course, was expected, that this was not a favourable time for remitting duties. The matter must, however, be kept constantly before the eyes of all Chancellors of the Exchequer until the emancipation of what has been called by an American representative (who imagined that he was contemptuous) mere Rags and Lampblack has been obtained. The matrimony of rags and lampblack has produced more good to mankind than any event on uninspired record; and what Providence has joined let not Chancellors of Exchequer seek to put asunder.

The Church Parliament has been sitting and discharging its ineffectual speeches. Several Bishops alluded to the embarrassment in which a clergyman is placed when, reading the burial service over some person whom he knew to have been wicked and worthless, he is called upon to express his "sure and certain hope" of that person's "joyful resurrection." Their Lordships agreed that the position of the clergyman was painful; but thought that it was better to endure this occasional evil than to tamper with the service. The Bishop of Exeter declared that nothing should induce him to utter the hope in question under such circumstances; but added that he could not advise any other clergyman to violate the law. Another intimation was given by one of their Lordships, namely—that if a clergyman knew of a person living in sin it was his duty to rebuke him while alive, and, if he could not reform him, to get him excommunicated, and then the burial service would not be read over him. One can scarcely believe that a Bishop could be in earnest in giving such advice to a parish priest. It reads like Baron Maule's sarcastic address to the convicted bigamist pauper, who ought to have gone to the Ecclesiastical Court and the House of Lords for a divorce.

THE "CODEX ARGENTÆUS."—Professor Uppström, from the University of Upsala, communicates to the world the interesting fact that the ten leaves of the "Codex Argenteus" of Ulfilas, the loss of which was first discovered in 1834, have been found again. The "Codex" now comprises once more 187 leaves—the same number which it contained at the time when Count Magnus Gabriel de la Gardie presented it to the library of the University of Upsala. The leaves now still wanting amount to 143, but they were lost before 1648, when the "Codex" first became Swedish property.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

VISCOUNT DOWNE.



THE Right Hon. William Henry Dawney, seventh Viscount Downe in the Peerage of Ireland, and a Baronet of England—who died on the 26th ult., at Torquay, where he had gone for the benefit of his health—was the eldest son of the Rev. William Henry, the sixth Viscount, by his wife Lydia, only daughter of the late John Heathcote, Esq., of Conington Castle, Huntingdonshire. He was born the 15th May, 1812, and married, the 25th July, 1843, Mary Isabel, fourth daughter of the late Hon. and Right Rev. Dr. Bagot, Bishop of Bath and Wells, by whom he leaves

issue a youthful family of seven sons and a daughter. Lord Downe was educated at Christ-church, Oxford, where he graduated as B.A. in 1833, and as M.A. in 1837. He was elected M.P. for Rutlandshire in 1841, and continued to retain his seat in the Commons up to January, 1846: he succeeded to the family honours on the demise of his father, in the May of that year. Lord Downe was a Deputy Lieutenant of Yorkshire, and was for some years an officer in the Yorkshire Hussars. He is succeeded by his eldest son, the Hon. Hugh Richard Dawney, now the eighth Viscount, who is in his thirteenth year.

The very ancient family of Dawney, Viscounts Downe, springs from Sir Payn D'Aunay, of Aunay Castle, in Normandy, who came to England with the Conqueror. Sir Payn's descendant, Sir William Dawney, was made a Baronet, at Acon, by Richard I. He had there displayed his prowess by slaying a Saracen, and by killing a lion, the paw of which he presented to the warrior monarch; who, to commemorate these valiant deeds, gave him a ring (to this day in the possession of the family), and ordered that he should bear for crest a demi-Saracen, with a lion's paw in one hand and a ring in the other. The first of the Dawneys was made a Baronet was Christopher Dawney, of Cowick, a staunch Cavalier. He received his patent from Charles I. in 1642. His son, Sir John Dawney, also a warm adherent of the Stuarts, was the first Viscount, being so created the 19th Feb., 1680. He sat in King James's Irish Parliament in 1689.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL THORN.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR NATHANIEL THORN, K.C.B., K.H., Colonel of the 3rd Buffs, had been more than fifty years in the British service. He entered the Army in 1802, went in 1808 with the Buffs to the Peninsula, and shared in most of the great engagements from that time to 1814. He was at Busaco, Badajoz, Albuera, Talavera, Vittoria, the Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthes, and Toulouse, besides the minor affairs of Arroyo de Molino, Almaraz, Garris, and Aire. During the greater portion of the time General Thorn was employed as Assistant Quartermaster-General, and in a similar capacity he embarked at Bordeaux in 1814 for America, where he was present at the affair of Plattsburg. He was once wounded, and had three horses shot under him. For his arduous services Thorn was made a K.H. in 1832 and a C.B.; he became a Lieutenant-General and obtained the Colonelcy of the 3rd Buffs in 1844, and it was only the other day that he was advanced to be a Knight Commander of the Bath. He had, in fact, just returned from his investiture at Windsor Castle, when on reaching his residence, Upcott House, near Taunton, he was taken suddenly ill, and died the next day, the 26th ult.

REAR-ADMIRAL MILWARD.

REAR-ADMIRAL CLEMENT MILWARD entered the Navy 20th Oct., 1793, on board the *Alarm* (32), Captain Lewis Robertson; and in the following years was severely wounded while Midshipman of that frigate in an attack at Point à Pitre, Guadeloupe. After two years' further service on the West India station he joined, in August, 1796, the *Prince of Wales* (98), flag-ship of Rear-Admiral Henry Harvey, under whom, in February, 1797, he witnessed the surrender of Trinidad. In October of the latter year Milward became Acting Lieutenant of the *Favourite* sloop, Captain Lord Camelford. While in that capacity it was he who handed Lord Camelford the pistol on the well-known occasion when Lord Camelford shot Lieutenant Peterson, of her Majesty's ship *Woodcock*, for mutinous conduct at English Harbour, Antigua. In August, 1799, being then again in the *Prince of Wales*, under Lord Hugh Seymour, he assisted as Midshipman at the capture of Surinam. On that occasion he was once more invested with the rank of Acting Lieutenant, and appointed to the *Surinam*, a prize corvette of 20 guns. He came home invalided from the West Indies in October, 1802; but in less than a year went into active service again. On the 2nd August, 1805, he participated, when in company with the *Harrier* sloop, in an action of two hours with the French 36-gun frigate *Semillante*, and several batteries, at the entrance of the Straits of St. Bernardino, Philippine Islands. He was at the reduction of Martinique; and on his return to England in the *Belleisle*, with the surrendered Governor and garrison of the latter island, he was presented with a Commander's commission, the 14th June, 1809. As Captain of the *Herald*, in 1815, he succeeded in effecting the capture of several of the enemy's vessels, and took an active part in the expedition against New Orleans. Captain Milward accepted the rank of Retired Rear-Admiral, 1st October, 1846; and died at his residence at Tullough, in the county Kilkenny, on the 14th ult., in the eighty-first year of his age.

REAR-ADMIRAL STEVENSON.

THE demise of Retired Rear-Admiral James Stevenson occurred recently at Leith. This officer entered the Navy in 1783, as a first-class volunteer. He served first on the coast of North America, until 1789; and next in the Channel and West Indies, from 1790 until 1792. In 1797 he was nominated Acting Lieutenant of the *Victorious*, 74, and assisted at the blockade of Mangalore. He returned to England in 1803; obtained, in 1804, an appointment in the Sea Fencibles at Dundee; acquired the rank of Commander in 1806; and from the receipt of his post commission, bearing date 1812, was employed (with the exception of an interval of two months in the summer of 1808) on various parts of the Baltic, Mediterranean, and Home stations. He made prize of two privateers; and accompanied the expeditions to Copenhagen and Walcheren. He attained his present rank in 1846.

MR. EDWARD FRANCIS FITZWILLIAM.

THIS talented young composer died on the 19th ult., at his residence at Brompton, in his thirty-third year. He was the son of Mr. Fitzwilliam, at one time a very popular comedian. His mother was the late famous actress and vocalist, Mrs. Fitzwilliam. He was born at Deal, in Kent, the 2nd August, 1824; was educated at the Pimlico Grammar School; afterwards at St. Edmund's College, Old Hall, Hert; and finally at the excellent collegiate institution of the Abbé Haefreigne at Boulogne. On quitting that college he was instructed in music by the celebrated composers, Sir Henry Bishop and John Barnett, and soon obtained reputation as a composer himself. In 1847 he was made musical director of the Lyceum; and in 1853 he was appointed to the same office at the Haymarket Theatre, and retained it till his death. His principal compositions were a "Stabat Mater," a "Te Deum," and a Mass; and in lighter style, some operas and songs, and the music of the Adelphi dramas, "The Green Bushes," and "The Flowers of the Forest." Mr. Fitzwilliam married, the 31st Dec., 1853, the clever actress, Miss Ellen Chaplin, whom he has left with an infant son to lament his loss.

EXECUTION OF VERGER.—The assassin of the late Archbishop of Paris underwent the punishment of his crime on the morning of the 30th ult., in front of the prison La Roquette. His appeal having been rejected, as well as his application for pardon, the order was given for his execution. It arrived at the prison at half-past twelve on the previous night, being brought by the executioner himself. At two o'clock the scaffold had been erected. Notwithstanding the silence which had been observed as to the time, and the late hour at which the preparations were commenced, an immense crowd, including many women, had collected before day broke in the morning. As early as five o'clock carriages arrived filled with persons anxious to obtain places; and by seven o'clock the Place de la Roquette and the neighbouring streets were thronged. At a few minutes before eight Verger left the cell to walk to the scaffold. When taking leave of the director of the prison he again requested him to grant him an hour. He then became so weak as he crossed the threshold of the prison that he was obliged to be supported on one side by the Abbé Hugon and on the other by the executioner, and the moment after found himself before the instrument of death. During his progress from the prison he was heard to utter some words, such as *amende honorable, plus tard*, and then ascended the steps, still upheld by the Abbé and the executioner. On reaching the platform Verger fell on his knees and uttered some words, apparently in the greatest mental anguish; he then rose and kissed the crucifix, and at last, as if by one terrible effort, threw himself into the hands of the executioner. In a moment after his career in this world had terminated.

ERRATUM AT PAGE 99.—The name of the American poet quoted and illustrated is George H., not Charles, Boker; and the title of the volume is "The Podesta's Daughter." (Delf and Trübner, Paternoster-row.)

In the course of the next spring a very important library, containing 10,000 volumes, will be brought to the hammer in Göttingen. It was the property of the late Captain Wrisberg, and consists mainly of the library of the former Professor of Anatomy, Herr Wrisberg.

LITTLE FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW.

Oh, little footprints in the snow!
Down the garden path they go,
Children all.
Jessie the eldest, slim and tall,
Valorous Dick,
Armed with his stick,
And soft-eyed Mary,
Quiet, demure,
Pale and pure;
And our youngest fairy,
Baby Alice, our birdie small.
She can just walk,
And lisping, talk;
She points with her tiny shell-
pink finger
To the elfin rime
Or the bare-branched lime,
Where the frosts of the early
morning linger;—

Grave surprise
In the baby eyes
As she looks on the winter world,
A white
New wonder to our wee thing's
sight,
So, laughing merrily and childish
clear
Into the tingling, shining, frosty
air,
Fair as dear,
Dear as fair,
Trip they—a bright-faced band,
Hand in hand,
And down the garden path they
go,
Leaving little footprints in the
snow.

M. J. J.

THE WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEB. 4, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 A.M. (reduced to the sea, corrected and reduced.)	Thermometer Attached to Barometer.	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Mean.	Dry Bulb at 9 A.M.	Wet Bulb at 9 A.M.	Direction of Wind.	Amount of Cloud. (0-10)	Rain in Inches.
Jan. 29	29.853	27.3	30.8	19.2	25.0	23.4	23.2	N.	0	0.000
" 30	29.874	27.0	35.3	17.9	26.6	24.5	24.0	S.W.	10	0.146
" 31	29.659	32.8	36.8	28.2	32.5	33.4	33.2	S.W.	10	0.000
Feb. 1	29.965	30.8	36.5	20.6	28.6	28.8	28.5	S.W.	10	0.000
" 2	29.666	30.3	34.8	21.1	27.9	30.6	29.8	S.E.	10	0.008
" 3	29.764	31.5	30.7	24.1	27.4	29.2	28.7	E.N.E.	10	0.018
" 4	30.201	29.6	33.8	20.4	27.1	28.7	28.0	N.	10	0.000
Means	29.855	29.9	34.1	21.6	27.9	28.4	27.9			0.172

The range of temperature during the week was 18°.

Snow was falling at 6 p.m. of Jan. 30, and a heavy fall took place on the early morning of the 31st. It was again snowing at 11 a.m. of Feb. 2, and on the night of Feb. 3; a few flakes likewise fell on the evening of Feb. 2 and the morning of Feb. 4. Thaw was going on during the day of the 31st, and on Feb. 1 and 2, but the ground still remains covered with snow. Dense fog prevailed during the day and night of Feb. 1. A halo was visible round the moon on the night of Feb. 2.

The sky has been much overcast, but was clear on the days of Jan. 29 and Feb. 4, and nights of Jan. 31 and Feb. 3. A little rain fell at midnight of Jan. 30.

J. BREEN.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOMETER.		WIND.		RAIN in 24 hours. Read at 10 A.M.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum read at 10 A.M.	Maximum read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	
Jan. 28	29.828	30.4	27.2	89	4	24.7	34.8	N.N.W.	328	0.00
" 29	29.868	26.5	23.1	88	2	22.2	31.5	N.W. S.W.	163	0.00
" 30	29.801	29.6	22.9	79	6	19.9	34.5	S.S.W.	143	0.00
" 31	29.740	31.9	29.4	92	3	26.2	37.5	W.	208	0.00
Feb. 1	29.937	28.8	25.7	89	8	19.9	34.4	S.S.W. E.S.E.	182	0.287
" 2	29.588	31.1	26.9	86	9	23.7	36.5	S.E.	65	0.00
" 3	29.820	28.2	20.9	76	10	26.2	30.8	N.E.	279	0.00

The daily means are obtained from observations made at 6h. and 10h. a.m., and 2h., 6h., and 10h. p.m., on each day, except Sunday, when the first observation is omitted. The corrections for diurnal variation are taken from the Tables of Mr. Glaisher. The "Dew-point" and "Relative Humidity" are calculated from observations of the dry and wet bulb thermometers, by Dr. Apjohn's Formula and Dalton's Tables of the Tension of Vapour. The movement of the wind is given by a self-recording Robinson's Anemometer, the amount stated for each day being that registered from midnight to midnight.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

SIXTY-SEVEN convicts from the *Defence* hulk were forwarded on Friday to the convict prison at Dartmoor; and on the same day twenty-six convicts from Millbank prison arrived at the Royal Arsenal, to be sent on board the *Defence*.

A MEETING of Commissioners of Lieutenancy was held on the 30th ult., at Guildhall, for the purpose of making arrangements for calling out the militia. The Colonel reported several vacancies for Lieutenants and Ensigns. A special court was appointed to be held on Friday, the 13th inst., to receive applications from candidates for the vacant commissions.

THE three regiments of the line quartered at Portsmouth are being removed. The 9th Regiment has been replaced by the 90th. The 20th and 22nd will be replaced by the 23rd Royal Welsh Fusiliers and the 82nd Regiment. The changes are between Portsmouth and the camp at Aldershot. The 23rd, 82nd, and 90th are not to remain long at Portsmouth; according to present arrangements they go to the East Indies as soon as the transports to convey them there are ready.

It was reported lately that the system of job and task work in her Majesty's dockyards was to be discontinued, and that the ordinary day pay, which was suspended during the war, was to be resumed. This order will take effect on the 1st of April, the shipwrights receiving an addition of 6d. per day to the original daily pay of that class of artisans, and joiners, painters, coopers, and wheelwrights, an addition of 4d. per day. This additional daily pay is not satisfactory to all the men concerned, inasmuch as, under the task and job work system, they have realised some 6s. or 7s. per day, while the intended increase in daily pay will not give any of them more than 5s. per day. Other branches—the smiths, millwrights, sailmakers, ropemakers, and sawyers—are not to receive any addition to their standard daily pay. In consequence of these alterations, and the non-raising of the pay of some classes of artisans, a memorial has been drawn up by those who felt themselves aggrieved, for presentation to the Admiralty. In addition to the above reductions of expenditure, it is ordered that all the hired men in her Majesty's dockyards are to be discharged on the 31st of March, and that the wages of all labourers are to be reduced from 14s. to 12s. per week.

REAR-ADMIRAL PETER RICHARDS, who has long been one of the most efficient Lords of the Admiralty, has been appointed Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital. Admiral Richards was First Lieutenant of the *Queen Charlotte* at Algiers, and has won his way to his present high station solely by his unwearied assiduity and his steadfast honesty of purpose.

The arrangements connected with the organisation of the War-office are now completed, and the offices of Clerk of the Ordnance, Deputy Secretary-at-War, and Director-General of Army Clothing have been abolished. Colonel Mundy has been appointed Governor of Jersey, and Sir Benjamin Hawes, the late Deputy Secretary-at-War, becomes the permanent Under Secretary of State; Mr. Godley, the late Director-General of Stores, is appointed Assistant Under Secretary of State; Sir Henry Storks, K.C.B., is appointed Secretary for Military Correspondence; Captain Caffin, at present Naval Director-General of Artillery, is appointed Director of Stores and Clothing, the salary attached to the former office being saved to the public. Mr. Ramsay, who has hitherto been Assistant Director-General of Clothing, will be Assistant Director of Stores and Clothing, and will, in consequence of the amalgamation, undertake other duties connected with army stores generally in addition to those hitherto performed by him. Sir Thomas Troubridge is appointed Deputy Adjutant-General, and will, under the directions of his Royal Highness the General Commanding-in-Chief, perform the multifarious duties connected with the arrangement for the patterns of clothing, accoutrements, and necessities supplied to the troops, and those purely military duties formerly undertaken by the Board of General Officers.

MEMORIAL OF THE LATE WAR.—A very interesting model of the British Cemetery on Cathcart's Hill, Sebastopol, has just been presented to the Museum of the United Service Institution, by Mr. C. B. Curtis. This model has been constructed from authentic plans and elevations drawn by officers of the Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers. It shows the cemetery in June, 1856, with the several graves, tombs, and headstones; and Mr. Curtis has caused to be engraved a key to the memorials, with the several inscriptions.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 120.)

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

PRIVATE BUSINESS.—Mr. OLIVEIRA took charge of the private business of the House, and discharged the functions in that department formerly discharged by Mr. Brotherton. Several petitions were presented against the Income-tax.

THE REPORT ON THE ADDRESS.

Sir JOHN RAMSDEN brought up the report on the Address. Mr. HADFIELD complained that there was no allusion in the Speech to the condition of India. The people there were in great distress, while the cultivation of cotton, which they could supply to any extent, was neglected. He charged the Government with not doing their duty in that respect, and reminded them of the frightful results which would happen if the supplies of cotton from America were stopped—a result which might happen on any day.

Admiral WALCOTT called attention to the gallantry which the Indian navy had shown in the Persian expedition; at the same time that he lamented none of the Queen's ships had been employed in the expedition. With respect to the Chinese expedition, he thought the retribution inflicted upon the Chinese was too severe, but he believed it was not beyond the instructions issued from home.

Sir J. FITZGERALD reiterated the complaints of Mr. Hadfield with respect to the neglect of Indian agriculture.

Mr. V. SMITH admitted the importance of the question. The matter was under the consideration of the Government, and he did not despair of affording greater facilities to the cultivation of cotton by changing the rent-charge upon the land, which at present varied from year to year, into a permanent charge.

After some remarks from Mr. Kinnaid, the report was brought up and agreed to.

Mr. CRAWFORD obtained leave to bring in a bill to render judgments or decrees obtained in any court in the United Kingdom valid in all other parts of the kingdom.—The House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

CHINA AND PERSIA.—The Earl of CLARENDON, in answer to a series of questions put to him by the Earl of Ellenborough, the Earl of Derby, and the Earl of Malmesbury, stated that the papers relating to the recent proceedings in Canton, including a map of that city, were now ready for presentation to their Lordships' House. The papers relating to the war with Persia were only delayed pending the negotiations that were now going on in Paris between the Persian Ambassador and Lord Cowley. The only instructions given to Sir John Bowring were those he received upon leaving this country for Canton, and had no special reference to the circumstances which had recently occurred. —Earl GREY thought it would be desirable to have produced copies of the despatches that had been received and forwarded in reference to China, from the date of the last treaty entered into with that Power.

The Earl of CARDIGAN, in asking a question of the Secretary of State for War, relating to the Army, took the opportunity of referring to a personal attack made upon him by a junior officer under cover of an anonymous publication.—Lord PANMURE, while deprecating the practice of making that House a Court of Appeal in respect to points of discipline in the Army, thought that, considering the distinguished services of the noble Earl during the late war, for which he had received the special thanks of the late Lord Raglan, and the thanks of that House, the noble Earl could very well afford to allow those attacks to which he had referred to pass unnoticed.

Lord BERNERS moved that an humble address be presented to her Majesty for a return of the number of tickets of leave issued to convicts in each year since the commencement of such practice; their original sentence, and unexpired time; showing the number of such convicts reapprehended, for what offence, and the result of such proceedings.—Earl GRANVILLE, on the part of the Government, assented to the motion, and hoped there would be no discussion on the subject on that occasion.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

NEW WRIT.—On the motion of Mr. HAYTER, a new writ was ordered for Hull, in the room of Sir H. W. Watson, recently created a Baron of the Exchequer.

A vast number of petitions were presented for the entire or partial repeal of the Income-tax.

MAYNOOTH GRANT.—Mr. SPOONER gave notice that he would, on that day fortnight, move that the House resolve itself into Committee to consider the subject of the College of Maynooth (Laughter).

POISONOUS DRUGS.—Sir G. GREY, in reply to Mr. Brady, said he intended shortly to introduce a bill to regulate the sale of poisonous drugs.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

Mr. LABOUCHERE moved the appointment of a Select Committee to consider the state of the British Possessions in North America which are under the administration of the Hudson's Bay Company, or over which they possess a license to trade.

Mr. ROEBUCK did not mean to oppose the motion, but suggested that its object might be attained by a shorter course. The proper use of such territories was colonisation, to which the Hudson's Bay Company was entirely opposed. The United States now were bent upon extension and aggrandisement. If they succeeded in their present designs they would be able to dominate over the world, and the aim of the Government of this country ought to be to create in their American territories a balance to the power of the States.

Mr. ADDERLEY supported the motion.

Mr. ELLICE, junior, defended the conduct of the Hudson's Bay Company, but without opposing the motion.

Mr. GLADSTONE contended that the Hudson's Bay Company had no valid claim to the possession of its exclusive privileges; and that it was alike unjust and inexpedient to place such vast territories under the sole control of a commercial company.

After some remarks from Mr. Henley, Mr. Laing, Mr. H. Baillie, and Mr. Labouchere, in explanation, the motion was agreed to.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.—Mr. LABOUCHERE obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable the inhabitants of the Ionian Islands to hold naval and military commissions under the Crown.

NORFOLK ISLAND.—Mr. LABOUCHERE also obtained leave to bring in a bill to alter the existing provisions relating to ecclesiastical government in Norfolk Island.

Mr. A. PELLATT obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of imprisonment for debt, to extend the remedies of creditors, and to punish fraudulent debtors.

NOTICES OF MOTION.—The following notices were given in the House of Commons on Tuesday evening:—Mr. A. Pellatt gave notice that he should move on Thursday that "the House do resolve itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider the Income and Property Tax Acts, which were passed expressly to defray the expenses of the war with Russia, and that the House is of opinion that the war having happily terminated, the said Acts, or so much thereof, shall be repealed as to reduce the tax from 16d. to 5d., and that the same should come into operation on the 5th of April next."—Major Reed gave notice of a similar motion for Tuesday next.—Mr. Muntz, to move resolutions against the Income-tax on Tuesday, Feb. 17.—Mr. Ingram's motion for a Select Committee to "inquire into the method of collecting the Inland Revenue of the country, and to report any improvement they may recommend in this department of the public service," will be brought forward early in the Session.

GRAND INVESTITURE OF THE KNIGHTS OF THE ORDER OF ST. PATRICK.—A grand Investiture of the Knights of this illustrious Order was held on the 30th ult., under circumstances of unusual interest, in the Presence Chamber, Dublin Castle. The Knights invested were the Earl of Granard and Lord Viscount Gough, G.C.B.—the first remarkable for being, perhaps, the most youthful Knight that was ever admitted to the ranks of the order; and the latter renowned no less for the dauntless heroism and genuine chivalry of his personal character, than for the high military talents and brilliant achievements which have immortalised the name of "the Tipperary Chief" in the remotest quarters of the British possessions; in either case a choice deservedly popular, and reflecting lustre on the Grand Mastership of the Earl of Carlisle. The present investiture was remarkable for three leading features—first, that it was followed, for the first time since the great installation of George IV., by a banquet, given by the Lord Lieutenant, in St. Patrick's Hall, to which nearly a hundred guests were invited; secondly, that it was the first that has taken place since the restoration of St. Patrick's Hall to its original splendour, when it justly acquired the reputation of being one of the most magnificent assembly-rooms in Europe; and, thirdly, from its being held contemporaneously with the Levee and Drawing-room—at a time when perhaps a greater number of the nobility and personages of distinction were assembled in Dublin than at any former period since the Union: (We purpose giving next week an illustration and a full detail of the above-mentioned magnificent Banquet in St. Patrick's Hall.)

THE KING OF OUDE.—A rumour having been spread, and generally believed, that the Oude question is settled by the grant of an hereditary pension, W. W. Bird and Mold, Museen-Oodden, Vakeels to his Majesty the King of Oude, state that his Majesty the King of Oude distinctly refused such terms as the above from the first, and that the rumour is entirely without foundation.

INCOME-TAX MEETING AT CHELSEA.—A crowded meeting against the Income-tax was held last evening at Lloyd's Assembly Rooms, Chelsea; Mr. E. Malins, Q.C., M.P., in the chair. Resolutions in favour of the immediate removal of the "war 9d.," and condemnatory of indiscriminately taxing precarious and permanent incomes, were carried unanimously. Messrs. West, Hawkins, Archibott, and other gentlemen took part in the proceedings.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

THE PAPER DUTY.—DEPUTATION TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER.—On Wednesday last, at one o'clock, a number of gentlemen, most of them members of the Association for Promoting the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge, with Mr. Milner Gibson, M.P., at their head, had an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, at his official residence in Downing-street, for the purpose of pressing on his attention the necessity of repealing the Excise-duty on paper. Mr. Milner Gibson briefly introduced the deputation to the right hon. gentleman, describing it as being composed of gentlemen belonging to the above-named society, and of others interested in the manufacture of paper, and also in trade generally. Their object, he added, was to bring under the consideration of the Government the necessity of dealing with the paper-duty on its own merits and as a matter of financial policy. The subject had been investigated by Parliamentary committees and commissions, and successive Ministers had held out expectations that this paper-duty ought to be dealt with; but it had been postponed from time to time, and the deputation had thought that no further delay should stand in the way of the question being seriously entertained by the Government. There were gentlemen present who would point out to the right hon. gentleman some of the evils of the tax, and he should not, therefore, occupy more time, except to say that many of the best friends of education throughout the country thought the primary thing to be done towards carrying out their views on that subject was to remove the obstacles which now stood in the way of the diffusion of knowledge. Mr. C. D. Collett, secretary of the Society for the Repeal of the Taxes on Knowledge, then read a memorial setting forth their views on the subject under consideration; after which Mr. Baldwin, of Birmingham, Mr. Rawlins, of Wrexham, and others interested in the trade, entered into explanations regarding the peculiar hardship of the paper-duty. The Chancellor of the Exchequer promised, of course, to give the matter his best attention.

ROYAL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR.—The half-yearly meeting of this useful institution was held on Thursday last at the Dispensary, Dean-street, Soho; Mr. W. T. Cooper in the chair. The secretary announced that the dispensary had afforded treatment to an increased number of applicants during the last half-year. The statistical account of the new admissions, Mr. Harvey, the surgeon to the institution, stated to the meeting, were 1058 cured, 174 consisting of discharges from the ear, nine in the head and ear, nervous affections of the head, rheumatic deafness, diseases of the throat, with some aggravated forms of polypos in the ear, and other diseases of a kindred nature.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting on Monday next, the 9th inst., the following papers will be read:—1. Notes on the route from Bushire to Shiraz; by Lieut.-General Wm. Monteith. To be followed by—2. Observations on the Geography of Southern Persia, with reference to the pending military operations; by Colonel Sir Henry Rawlinson. 3. Commentaries on the Battle of Sellasia, &c.; by Lieut.-General Jochmus.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL, GRAY'S-INN-ROAD.—The number of patients relieved at this hospital during the week ending Jan. 31 was 2302, of which 730 were new cases.

HOSPITAL FOR CONSUMPTION, BROMPTON.—On Thursday a meeting of the friends of this invaluable charity was held at the board-room of the hospital, at Brompton. From the report of the committee it appears that the recent extension of the building, by which the number of wards were more than doubled, and the beds at once increased from 90 to 230, has enabled the committee to meet the urgent claims of the afflicted poor, without the tedious and dangerous delay of treatment otherwise inevitable. The hospital, being completed to the extent originally contemplated, now possesses every appliance necessary for the consumptive patient, and adequate funds are only needed to keep it in full and constant operation. Application has been made to some of the different medical examining boards in the metropolis to recognise attendance on the Hospital for Consumption as part of the medical practice required of candidates for examination. Favourable replies have been received from the University of London, the Apothecaries' Company, the Navy Medical Department, and the East India Company.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Tuesday a meeting of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held at its house, John-street, Adelphi; Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., in the chair. The valuable services rendered during the awful gales that swept the coast in the beginning of last month were reported to the meeting, and are as follows:—The Hauxley (Northumberland) life-boat, on Peake's plan, saved the crew of eleven men of the brig *Sophie*, of Oporto. On the same day this life-boat also rescued the crew of five men of the schooner *Georgina*, of Inverness. The Scarborough new life-boat, on Peake's plan, saved the crew (consisting of twenty-six persons) of the brig *The Thompsons*, of London; the brig *Northumberland*, of Whitby; and the brig *Wilsons*, of Shields. The Fife life-boat rescued the crew of nine hands of the brig *Katcliffe*, of Whitby. The Lowestoft life-boat, manned by the intrepid Captain Joachim, R.N., and nineteen men, saved the crew of eight men of the brig *Tennant*, of Stockton, wrecked on the Newcome Sands. The Lytham life-boat assisted in bringing the flat *Turner* and her crew from the dangerous Horse Bank Sands, near Liverpool. The Rhyll tubular life-boat rescued four men from the *Temperance*, of Belfast. The Redcar life-boat saved the crew of nine men of the barque *Emma*, of North Shields. The Walmer life-boat (on Peake's plan) rescued fifteen persons from the barque *Reliance*, of London. Several members of the Royal Thames Yacht Club had generously contributed £160 to the National Life-boat Institution, towards the cost of the latter life-boat. The Ramsgate, Broadstairs, and Shields life-boats had also performed valuable services by rescuing shipwrecked crews from many wrecks on that disastrous occasion. The gallant crews of the above-named life-boats have all received pecuniary rewards for their gallant services, either from the National Life-boat Institution or from elsewhere. A Mr. William McKerrell has munificently offered the institution £180 towards the founding of a first-class life-boat establishment. It appears from returns made to the Board of Trade that the number of wrecks was about 340, and the lives lost therefrom about 186. But it is a most gratifying fact that the number of lives saved on that disastrous occasion, chiefly by life-boats and the life-preserving apparatus, was 662. The silver medal of the institution, and other rewards, were voted to several gentlemen in acknowledgment of their gallant services in saving life from shipwreck on recent occasions.

PUBLIC PARKS FOR THE METROPOLIS.—At a special meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works on Tuesday the report of the committee upon this subject was presented to the Board; and a deputation of vestrymen and ratepayers from Mile-end, Poplar, and Limehouse attended, with plans and estimates for a new road from the East India-road to the Mile-end New-road, and for improving the Grove-road, to form a communication between Limehouse and Victoria Park. The plans were referred to the committee. Mr. Wright moved, "That immediate measures be taken for the establishment of two parks, one in the southern, and one in the northern parts of the metropolis, as recommended by the Works' Committee; and that, apart from any contribution to be obtained from Government, the expense be equally assessed upon the whole metropolis." He observed that in the western portions of the metropolis there were seven parks, but in the eastern part there was but one open space, Victoria Park. His motion would involve an outlay of £100,000, and £200,000 for Islington; but there was no doubt that the Government would contribute at least £50,000. Mr. Savage seconded the motion, and said that less than a farthing rate in the pound, spread over a period of forty years, would defray the whole expense of making these two parks. Mr. D'Hanger moved as an amendment, that after the word "metropolis," in Mr. Wright's motion, that the words "and for the purchase of Hampstead Heath" be added. The amendment was negatived by 25 to 3, and Mr. Wright's motion carried by 20 to 8. On the motion of Mr. Wright it was resolved to communicate with the Government about the purchase of Hampstead Heath; and a resolution was also passed adopting the proceedings of the Islington vestry with reference to the Finsbury Park, and undertaking to promote the bill in the House of Commons. The City Commission of Sewers, at their meeting on Tuesday, unanimously agreed to oppose the Finsbury Park Bill. If it should attain to a second reading in the House of Commons. The ground of opposition is the additional charge on the ratepayers of the City which is proposed by the bill.

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE SECRETARY OF THE REFORM CLUB.—On Tuesday morning Mr. Bedford, the coroner for Westminster, held an inquest at the Reform Club, Pall-mall, on the body of Mr. William King Norway, secretary of that institution. From the evidence adduced it appeared that some time since Mr. Norway broke one of his legs, and from that time had been in the habit of taking laudanum to allay the pain, which sometimes had been very severe. On Friday last he suffered acutely in consequence of the cold, and took more than his usual dose—a circumstance which unhappily resulted in his death. The jury at once returned a verdict of "Accidental poisoning." Mr. Norway was greatly esteemed by members of the club.

WEST LONDON UNION.—The Guardians of this Union, on Tuesday last, on the motion of Mr. Joshua W. Butterworth, unanimously adopted a petition to the Corporation of London praying for the immediate establishment of Public Baths and Washhouses, as well as Model Lodging Houses for the Industrial Poor, on the site of Farringdon Market; and also for the beneficial appropriation of the numerous waste sites in the Union occasioned by the wholesale destruction at the hands of the Corporation of the dwellings of the poorer classes sought to be relieved by the building of the Model Lodging Houses prayed for in the petition. These unoccupied and waste sites were also shown to be at the same time most detrimental to the interests of the ratepayers of the Union, by lessening so considerably the amount of rateable property therein, and thereby causing local burdens which should be borne by the many to be severely visited on the few.

THE UNEMPLOYED POOR.—THREATENED RIOTOUS PROCEEDINGS.

On Monday last large bodies of workmen, chiefly labourers, assembled in Smithfield, and afterwards draughted themselves off in batches or parties of 200 or 300 each, to the various parishes, for the purpose of obtaining relief. Shortly after three o'clock a detachment of between 300 and 400, chiefly Irish labourers, arrived in front of the vestry-hall, St. Pancras Workhouse, in the King's-road, and having been marshalled in line two or three deep, by a Mr. McHeath, a coffee-house keeper in Weston-street, Somers Town, and two or three other leaders by whom they were headed, Mr. McHeath and the leaders entered the department appropriated to relief, and handed to Mr. Clarke, the chief relieving overseer, a note signed by Mr. McHeath, which stated that he and those with him appeared there to demand relief for themselves and those who were waiting outside; and expressed a hope that it would be at once afforded, in order to prevent a collision between the unemployed and the parochial authorities.

On receiving the note, Mr. Clarke held a consultation with Mr. Hibbard, the clerk to the directors and guardians, the result of which was that the reply given to Mr. McHeath and his companions was that the whole of the officers were engaged in relieving women, it being "female relief day," and that they would enter into an investigation of all the cases, and afford relief on the following morning. The moment the leaders made their appearance among the crowd outside there was a tremendous rush up the railings, and on the reply being announced, there were loud vociferations of "Shame, shame!" and murmurs, and it was with some difficulty that the police were enabled to keep the foremost men from forcing their way through the gates to the relief department. A shout, however, was raised, "To the police court!" and the mob began to move towards the police court, Clerkenwell. The majority of the men having been recognised as the same who had applied on the previous Monday, and who had been offered and refused labour several times during the week, Mr. Wiswold, one of the Inquiring agents under the direction of Mr. Hibbard, at once proceeded to the Clerkenwell Police Court to inform the magistrate thereof, and take his advice as to what was to be done in the emergency. The advice received by Mr. Wiswold through the chief clerk was, that the authorities of St. Pancras should, instead of giving relief, as they had done last week, adopt the course which had been adopted by the authorities of Clerkenwell and Islington—namely, to apply the workhouse test by at once admitting all the applicants into the house. On Mr. Wiswold's return he was speedily followed by the men, who began to vociferate loudly; and it was the opinion of some of the police on duty that it only wanted the indiscretion of one or two leaders to cause a serious riot. Mr. Hadshell, the master of the workhouse, was communicated with to know what accommodation he could afford in the event of the event of the large body of men accepting the offer of admission which the Clerkenwell police authorities advised should be proffered to them. The governor of the workhouse refused to take any such responsibility upon himself. The casual wards were already overcrowded, and he would not run the risk of admitting 200 or 300 men within the walls of the establishment. Messengers were dispatched for the churchwardens, in order that they might take upon themselves the responsibility of ordering what was to be done. Ultimately the workhouse test, like the labour test, had its effect, for, when the men heard what had been determined upon, a great many went off, and scarcely any of those who remained accepted the offer of an immediate order of admission to the house. They were thereby at a late hour in the evening gradually dispersed.

At eight o'clock in the evening a very crowded meeting was held at the Institute, 22, Weston-street, Somers-town, for the purpose of receiving the reports of the deputations that had attended the various parishes after the meeting in Smithfield. Mr. John Brien occupied the chair, when the different reports were presented and read. After which the chairman addressed those assembled as to the propriety of maintaining order, and the meeting separated.

SALE OF THE WEST-END BRANCHES OF THE ROYAL BRITISH BANK.—On Tuesday last at Garraway's sale-rooms, the several leasehold buildings lately used as the West-end branches of the Royal British Bank, were offered to public auction by Mr. R. Chadwick, auctioneer, in four lots.

THE GOLD ROBBERY.—Mr. Clark, the clerk of the Central Criminal Court, has received a communication from Mr. Baron Martin, directing him to make out an order for the Turkish Bonds that were found in the possession of Pierre, one of the bullion robbers, to be delivered up to Mr. Rees, the solicitor to the South-Eastern Railway, in trust for Fanny Kay and her infant child.

FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.—On Wednesday afternoon, between the hours of twelve and one o'clock, a fire, attended with fatal consequences, broke out at the residence of Mr. Harrow, Phoenix-street, St. Giles's, on the first floor. Mrs. Lucy Andrews endeavoured to extinguish it, when her clothing became ignited, and she rushed on to the landing, where she dropped down. The unfortunate creature was taken to the hospital, but died on her admission. The engines of the London Brigade soon arrived, and the flames were extinguished.

THE DOUBLE MURDER IN WALWORTH.—Thomas Fuller Bacon and Martha Bacon, his wife, were again brought up from Horse-monger-lane Gaol on Wednesday, to be further examined—the latter charged on a coroner's inquisition with the wilful murder of Edwin Fuller Bacon, aged two years and a half, and Sarah Ann Bacon, aged eleven months; and the former on suspicion of being the actual perpetrator of the dreadful deed upon which his unfortunate wife stands charged. The court was completely crammed. The male prisoner, who appeared pale and dejected, was brought in first. As on the former examination, he seemed anxious to avoid the gaze of all present, and endeavoured to do so by hurrying to that part of the felons' dock which he occupied on the former day—a seat in which prevented a great part of the audience from having more than a mere profile view of his countenance. Mrs. Bacon continues to improve, and appears to be perfectly sane and rational. She was accommodated with a seat, with her friends, in such a position, as she herself requested, that her husband could not see her. When Bacon supposed she had entered the court he assumed a little more confidence; and, standing up in the dock, looked anxiously towards the place where she sat, in the hope of being able to see her. Finding that he could not do so, he sat down again, apparently gloomy and indifferent. Several witnesses were examined. Among others, Mrs. Ann Hyde, a witness who had been sent for to sit up in the house with the prisoner and Mrs. Payne and her daughter after the murder. Bacon had said to her on several occasions that he did not believe his wife had done it; but if she said anything to implicate him in the matter he would kill her. Two or three nights after going to the house, and at about three o'clock in the morning, Bacon was standing before a looking-glass, with his elbow on the mantelpiece, and his forehead on the palm of his hand—and it might be he was dozing—when he exclaimed, "Good God! how was it I did it!" She added that Bacon appeared, whether asleep or awake, in a continual state of misery. The two prisoners were remanded for another week.

THE CITY UNION FRAUDS.—At the Central Criminal Court, on Thursday last, Solon Paul, aged sixty, late a clerk in the City of London Union, was placed at the bar, charged with numerous frauds upon the guardians of the Union; and to the various indictments he pleaded "Not Guilty." The first indictment proceeded with was a charge of stealing a cheque for £228 15s. 9d. It appeared from the evidence of Mr. Heath, one of the guardians, that the cheque in question was handed over to the prisoner in the ordinary way of business to pay to Messrs. Kingsford and Co., the contractors for flour furnished to the Union, and which was drawn upon Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co. The prisoner, instead of paying the cheque to Messrs. Kingsford, paid it into his own bankers', and converted it to his own use. Several witnesses were called to prove the fact that the cheque was paid by the prisoner into the London Bank (the prisoner's bankers), and its amount paid to them by Smith, Payne, and Co. Mr. Sergeant Ballantine addressed the jury on the part of the prisoner in a most able speech, insisting that the conduct of the prisoner in dealing with the cheque, and paying it into his own bankers', was not in law a larceny, but merely a breach of trust. Mr. Justice Wightman, in summing up the evidence, said the sole question for the jury was whether they were satisfied that the prisoner, at the time of converting the cheque to his own use, intended to steal it. The jury, after an absence of fifty minutes, returned a verdict of "Guilty." The learned Judge ordered the prisoner to be called up for judgment, and sentenced him to be transported for fourteen years.

THE SAWARD FORGERIES CASE.—On Thursday last James Townsend Saward and James Anderson, who stand charged with being concerned in a series of gigantic frauds and forgeries on Messrs. Smith and Payne, Messrs. Gosling, and other bankers, were placed at the bar before the Lord Mayor for further examination. The evidence adduced was entirely of a corroborative nature in support of the main evidence, which has been already reported in our columns. The Lord Mayor remanded the prisoners until Wednesday next, when the depositions will be read over, and the prisoners finally committed for trial at the March sessions of the Central Criminal Court.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The deaths registered in the week that ended on Saturday last were 1209, which is nearly the same as the number returned in the previous week. In the ten years 1847-56 the average number of deaths in the weeks corresponding with last week was 1167; and if this is raised for the purpose of comparison, proportionally to the increase of population, it will become 1284. The rate of mortality that now rules is not high as compared with that of previous seasons, although it has lately shown that tendency to increase which is to be expected at a period of the year usually the most fatal to human life. Last week the births of 879 boys and 883 girls, in all 1762 children, were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1847-56 the average number was 1572.

Within the last fortnight Plymouth and its vicinity have been the scene of many burglaries.



CHINESE WOMAN GATHERING TEA.—FROM A DRAWING BY A CHINESE ARTIST.

THE CENTRAL AMERICAN WAR.

THE last accounts from Central America represent General Walker's position as exceedingly critical; indeed, it seems very doubtful whether he will be able to hold out much longer. A correspondent of the *Times*, writing from Greytown on the 6th of January, gives some interesting information regarding the late proceedings in that quarter. It appears

Mr. Vanderbilt, the celebrated shipowner, has been planning lately how to regain possession of those river and lake steamers which he accuses Walker of having taken from him without rendering due compensation, and upon which the Filibuster General depends entirely for his supplies and reinforcements. For some weeks Mr. Vanderbilt had been concerting measures with the Costa Ricans, and, on the 5th of December, a body of 200 men, under the charge of Mr. Spencer, Mr. Vanderbilt's agent, left San José, and after a laborious march of 200 miles, reached the San Carlos river. By means of flats and canoes they descended to Fort Serapiqué, which was garrisoned by 40 Americans, under Captain Thompson. This officer, although informed that rafts filled with Costa Ricans had been seen upon the river, through some unaccountable negligence, allowed himself to be surprised at midday on the 22nd December. Most of the American soldiers, panic-stricken, rushed into the water, where they were either drowned or shot. Others were bayoneted on the spot. Ten alone out of forty survive, and have been brought down here. Immediately after this successful assault Spencer descended in his canoes to this place, where four of the river steamers were lying. These he surprised before daylight on the morning of the 23rd. The suddenness of the seizure, and the unexpected appearance of a number of armed Costa Ricans rendered any attempt at resistance by the few unarmed men in charge hopeless; and in a few hours afterwards Spencer was steaming back again up the river with the four steamers which were intended to convey the reinforcements daily expected from New York and New Orleans to Walker.

Reascending the San Juan to the fort of Serapiqué, Spencer left three of his steamers there, and placed a strong garrison in the place—for his small force was now augmented by 500 men—and proceeded up the river to Toro, the commencement of the lake navigation, where a small steamer used for crossing the rapids and the lake steamer were lying. This Spencer found no difficulty in capturing, and in it he ascended to Fort San Carlos. Here he hoisted the usual signal, and invited some of the unsuspecting garrison on board, at the same time sending a party of 75 men to the rear of the fort. The principal officers of the fort were seized immediately upon their coming on board; and the Costa Ricans, rushing upon it from the rear, took the fort without the smallest resistance being offered to them. The lake

steamer from Virgin Bay, with 400 Californian passengers on board was next seized with the same consummate dexterity which had characterised all Spencer's proceedings.

Finding that, with the exception of thirty sick and wounded men from Walker's army, there were only Californians anxious to reach their destination on board, he ran his steamer alongside, and, to the astonishment of the passengers, informed them that he, together with fifty Costa Ricans, would be their escort to Greytown. He consequently arrived the day before yesterday at this place, and had scarcely landed his passengers when he perceived the *Texas* arriving from New Orleans. Knowing that she was bringing large reinforcements to Walker, he lost no time in preparing to escape up the river. Before doing so, however, he determined to ascertain the amount of the force, and crossing over to Point Arenas anchored in shoal water, within 200 yards of the spot at which the *Texas* dropped her anchor. On board this steamer 250 armed men, in the utmost excitement were making preparations to capture the hardy little craft which had already achieved so much. The pilot had informed them as they crossed the bar of the state of affairs, and they perceived that unless they could succeed in effecting this all chance of reaching Walker was hopeless. They had just decided on their plan of action when the little boat got up steam and vanished slowly round the green point, which, covered with luxuriant foliage, stretches across the river at the head of the bay. At this moment the disappointed passengers of the *Texas* are working indefatigably at sundry old scows which a few days' labour may render available for the ascent of the river. They are hardy, determined men, led by officers who have already served in many a hard-fought field, and if the recapture of the forts and steamers and ascent of the river is possible, they are not the men to be foiled. On the other hand, it is reported that Spencer is fortifying Serapiqué, and it is resolved to contest every point upon the river, and, if hard pressed, ultimately to burn the steamers. Walker, although his army is in good fighting condition, has no means of transporting it across the lake, and, moreover, is fully occupied in protecting it. Everything, therefore, must depend upon the exertions of the last arrivals. The steamer *Tennessee* is hourly expected from New York with a reinforcement of 150 men, but her non-appearance gives some ground for supposing that there is truth in the rumours of her arrest by the Government which were rife at New Orleans before the departure of the *Texas*.

The English squadron, under the command of Captain Erskine, of the *Orion*, has abstained from taking any share whatever in these proceedings; the only desire on the part of the British authorities here has been to prevent bloodshed, and, while expressing their determination to this effect to both parties, they have not, fortunately, been obliged to take forcible measures against either.

We have engraved a view of Greytown, sketched by a Correspondent. The place is interesting as the head-quarters of Captain Erskine's squadron. In the sketch you look to the west: the anchorage and harbour are out of sight, on the right hand; inside these were, at the time the sketch was taken, the gun-boats *Pioneer*, *Intrepid*, and *Victor*, with the corvettes *Cossack* and *Archer*, and the frigate *Arrogant* at anchor. The *Orion* and *Imperieuse* were obliged to anchor outside the spit, as there were only four-and-a-half fathoms of water over the bar.

SKETCHES FROM CHINA. CHINESE WOMAN GATHERING TEA.

WE are not surprised to find in the volume of Drawings by a Chinese artist, which has recently been placed at our disposal, "A Woman Gathering Tea." To the cultivation and manufacture of this wonderful plant the Chinese mainly owe their world-wide celebrity. Its use, as collected from the works of the Chinese, is traced to the fabulous period of their history—the earliest account of the plant being contained in the "Sho King," one of the classical works of high antiquity and veneration among the Chinese, and compiled by their renowned philosopher and great moralist, Confucius. In a set of illustrations of the characteristics of the country, the gathering of tea is, therefore, as appropriate as it is interesting. It has been for ages the theme of Chinese poets, the idol of their husbandmen, and the highest

favourite of the Emperor and his Government; and in our own country the deprivation of the article of tea would prove a calamity of no slight importance. It affords a luxury to the rich, and a blessing to the poor; and the moral effect of this beverage, as preventing recourse to stronger stimulants, is indubitable.

From Mr. Ball's excellent work on the "Cultivation and Manufacture of Tea," we have the following from the chapter on the Time of Gathering:—

Cunningham states that the tea-shrubs flower at Chusan from October to January, and that the seed is ripe in September or October. Ting Hing, a respectable green tea factor, states that they flower from September to November; another green tea factor, so late as February. Kompler observes that at Japan the shrubs flower from August until late in the winter. Von Siebold states from November to February.

A Chinese manuscript states:—

In the mild and temperate season of spring the shrubs shoot forth their leaves, when such as are young and delicate must be chosen. Those that are partly unfolded, long like a needle and covered with down, must be gathered to be made into Pekoe. A few days after Ko Yu (20th April) the leaves become large, and are called the first gathering (Teu Chun). These are thick and substantial, fragrant in smell, and sweet in flavour. When the leaves of the first gathering are exhausted, wait till they shoot out anew, about Chung (6th June), when they must be gathered and made. These are called the second gathering (Ul Chun), the flavour of which has no fragrance, and the colour of the leaf is of a dingy black. The leaves shoot out again at the summer solstice (Illa Chy); these are called the third gathering (San Chun), and are of a light green colour and coarse in smell.

The "Vú Ye Shan Chy" (the statistical work of the black tea country already alluded to) states that

The first gathering is fragrant in smell and full flavoured. The second has no smell and is weak in flavour. The third has a little smell, but is also weak in flavour.

The Chinese say that the Yen or Padre Souchong tea must be gathered not only in clear and bright weather, but that those teas only are of the first quality which are gathered during a continuation of fine weather, and even after noon, during the greatest heat of the day. On the other hand, a Chinese manuscript states, that "those which are gathered in rainy weather are poor and tasteless, and unfit for Pao Chong or Padre Souchong; though they will, nevertheless, do for Siao Poy and Ta Poy, or fine Souchong."



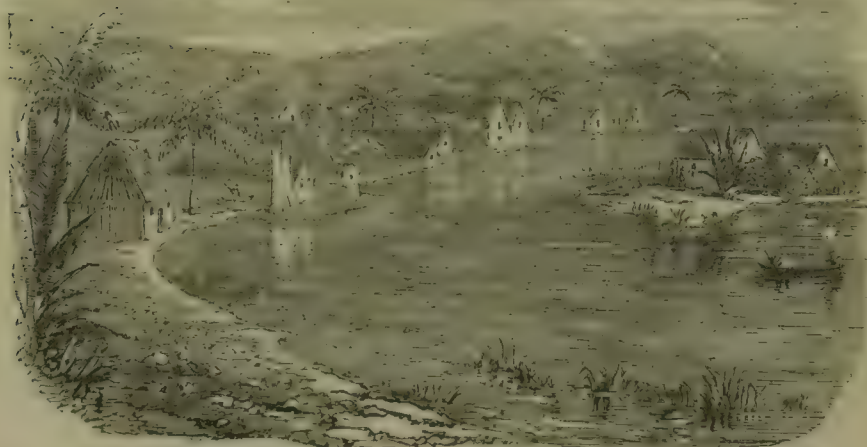
CHINESE MILITARY STANDARD-BEARER.—FROM A DRAWING BY A CHINESE ARTIST.

A further difference is also occasioned by the selection of particular shrubs, and of the best or most succulent leaves at the time of gathering. It is said to be a common practice among those merchants who are in the habit of frequenting the habitations of the Priests or Monks to contract for the produce of certain known shrubs. These are labelled according to their supposed resemblance in flavour to particular flowers; and at the season of Tsing Ming, in the early part of the year, they repair to these plantations, where they prepare the tea themselves. In these cases each leaf is said to be plucked separately from the shrubs; and the leaves of such shrubs as are known to resemble each other in flavour are mixed together and kept apart throughout the whole manipulation. They are also packed in small paper parcels, each weighing about eight or twelve ounces, sometimes bearing on them, in large flowing Chinese characters, the name of the flower they are supposed to resemble in odour; and sometimes the name of the hill of their growth in small neatly-written characters. These symbols can hardly have escaped the observation of the dealer and consumer. This care, however, is only bestowed on the finest description of Paochong tea, which is collected in very small quantities.

In the Illustration it may be supposed that some beautiful variety of the tea-plant is represented. The gathering is a process of great nicety and importance. Each leaf is plucked separately from the stalk. The hands of the gatherer are kept carefully clean, and in collecting some of the fine sorts the gatherer hardly ventures to breathe on the plant. At a place called Udsi, in the islands of Japan, is a mountain, the climate of which is supposed to be especially congenial to the growth of tea; and the whole crop which grows upon it is reserved for the sole use and disposal of the Emperor.

CHINESE STANDARD-BEARER.

IN our Journal for January 17 we detailed, at some length, the organisation of the Chinese army. We now engrave from our Artist's drawing a Standard-bearer. From a pole borne at his back hangs the standard: the ground bearing the characters is crimson.



GREYTOWN.—FROM A RECENT SKETCH.

S C E N E S I N T H E D E S E R T



SIMOOM IN THE DESERT.

THE DESERT ROUTE.

(Continued from page 82.)

IV. THE SIMOOM. V. HALT NEAR EL ARISH.

THE greater part of the distance has been accomplished, and the travellers are nearing the confines of the desert, when the wary and accustomed eye of the old greybearded camel-driver recognises in the murky banks quickly rising on the hot horizon the near approach of one of those dreadful sand-storms more terrible in their approach than even the mighty hurricanes that rage on the tempest-tossed deep. The camels, with instinctive perception, quicken their pace to a fast trot; while the old man, putting his hand up to his eyes to shade them from the intense mid-day glare, runs on in front in the hope of yet meeting shelter before the fury of the simoom bursts over their heads

and smothers them with intense clouds of dust. The strugglers now put their camels' speed to the test; and even the fair lady, in her great anxiety to reach a haven, is glad to furl her parasol and apply it, whip fashion, to the hard neck and shoulders of the camel. The straggling plants, whose long curving roots not unfrequently trip up the hurried foot-man, give indication of the near approach of the caravan to one of those oases of the desert which are strangely fertile and beautiful as the desert itself is arid and unseemly. A range of hills, composed of more staple matter than the desert sands, now heave in sight. The travellers quicken their pace; they mount over the mountains' sides and carefully descend the rather abrupt descent that conducts them to a valley, such as is presented in the Engraving. The dusky clouds rising high above the hills proclaim the simoom to be raging fiercely on the other side but there

is now a barrier placed between the travellers and the desert's tempest. The high hills impede the progress of the sand-clouds; and the lady, alighting from her camel, spreads her parasol again as, seated under the shade of some pleasant tree on the banks of the small river, she contemplates the beauty of the scene before her. On the other side of the river, where grow tall and graceful poplar-trees, a small village built on the water's edge; there is a large mosque and a finely-built minaret; and the whole town is perfectly reflected in the calm waters of the stream. On this side of the river are a party of Mahometans seated on a carpet spread on the ground, enjoying the cool of the evening and a whiff of tobacco, and waiting till the summons to prayer from the minaret shall be wafted across the water to warn them that the hour for orisons and their evening meal has arrived. Near them are a group of four or five



HALT BY A STREAM NEAR EL ARISH.

camels that have evidently come off a long journey, as we may judge by their weary looks and attitudes; and further on are the small low tents of the Arabs who wisely prefer encamping outside of the village to being exposed to the heat and filth of a public caravanserai. Our engraving gives a good idea of what these caravanserais usually are, especially those of a more ancient date: a lofty building full of arches, supported on gothic stumpy pillars, some of very exquisite workmanship, but which have the strange appearance of what was once something lofty, suddenly sunk deep into the earth by some violent convulsion of nature. At the caravanserai gate hangs a large lantern, throwing a meagre light on the objects around. Camels and donkeys; men, women, children; an occasional goat, and a few stray hens, have here a common resting-place. Groups of travellers are assembled in various parts of the building making ready for the night: some have taken the wise precaution to mount up on the elevated platform in the building, to avoid as much as possible the plague of fleas; others, too weary to take this precaution, squat themselves down where they best can; some few are busy purchasing little requisites for their suppers from the scanty stalls of the vendors many years established both outside and inside of the caravanserai.

(To be continued.)

THE THEATRES, &c.

ASTLEY'S.—The management of this equestrian theatre seems bent on pursuing its course of Shakspearean revival and illustration, which, we presume, has proved profitable. To "Richard the Third" and "Macbeth" succeeds "Katherine and Petruchio," which, as our readers are aware, is an abridgment of the "Taming of the Shrew," after a version made by Garrick. The present management have probably been induced to adopt the subject from its recent production on the Islington stage; but the entire drama, with the induction of *Christopher Sly*, appears to have been beyond the resources of an undramatic company. The part of *Petruchio*, as played by Mr. Holloway, is, perhaps, less stentorian in attributes than we have seen it when undertaken by more legitimate professors, and, indeed, does great credit to his judgment. The fervour with which this gentleman is received would seem to indicate that a popular audience is not necessarily best pleased with rant and bombast; in fact, we have notable proofs to the contrary. Quiet acting is appreciated everywhere. Horses are, of course, introduced where possible—in a wedding procession through the streets of Padua, and in the discomfort experienced by *Katherine*, which is usually described by *Grumio*. The latter character was humorously acted by Mr. I. W. Anson. *Katherine* was effectively played by Mrs. Anson. The scenes in the circus succeeded. By way of novelty, a M. Pledge ascended from the pit to the back of the stage upon a broad wheel, conducted over a narrow plank—a perilous feat, beyond doubt, but skillfully and safely accomplished.

DRURY LANE.—An old friend with a new face was produced on Monday, under the title of "The Black Book," a drama in three acts. The incidents are familiar to us as the dealings of a certain demonic personage who many years ago sported his diary on the stage. But *importer*; Mr. Charles Mathews wished to show his extraordinary talents in the supernatural, and this same dark journal was exactly suited to the purpose. The supposed demon turns out to be an honest lawyer, who undertakes the cause of *Mina*, the heiress of the Lilienburg barony, whose legitimacy is disputed; but *Wolf* (for such is the demon attorney's name) knows that the marriage certificate of *Mina's* mother exists, though the place where it is only known to one *Hans Caspar*, a retainer of the family, whose conversation is reduced to the monosyllables "no" and "yes." The lady's relatives are over-anxious to obtain the lady's estate, and not at all particular about the honesty of the means. *Wolf* has intrusted to *Mina's* care a black book in which it is supposed the marriage certificate is to be found. This they get hold of, and destroy; and, as it is supposed that *Wolf* has been killed in a quarrel, *Mina's* case appears desperate. But the demon appears just when wanted; he is, nevertheless, as much at sea as the rest. *Hans Caspar* is the appointed riddle-solver, and he cannot get beyond his monosyllables until three cabalistic words are pronounced. *Wolf* hits upon them by accident—"The honest lawyer." This same lawyer is one *Sturm*, by whom the black book was intrusted to *Wolf*, and whose dying instructions were left with *Hans*. The faithful domestic knocks a hole in the wall, and lo, the marriage certificate! *Mina* gives her hand to *Wolf*, as a reward for his trouble; and the curtain descends on a successful denouement.

MISS CATHERINE HAYES.—This gifted lady has just concluded an extensive and triumphant progress through her native land. She left Belfast on Wednesday night, after having given a morning concert in aid of the funds of the General Hospital—a grateful requital for the kindness of her reception in that town. Her success has been shared by her countryman, Mr. Osborne, and also by the young vocalist Mr. Millard, who first became known to the public by his excellent appearances at Julien's concerts.

FERDINAND GLOVER.—The Neapolitan journals speak in the highest terms of the impression produced by the performance of the above artist in the new opera of "Elnava." The *Rondinella* of the 31st ult. concludes its notice of him by saying that, "owing to the distinguished favour shown to him by the public, this brilliant young artist has been engaged as principal barytone for the Carnival of '57."

NATIONAL SPORTS.

THE publication of the six great handicap acceptances has put the racing men in a capital humour; and, taking them as a whole, they are very good, and number 312 out of 573 weighted. Darkie, the great myth, has disappeared from the Chester Cup, where the acceptances are 118 out of 188. Vengeance, 9 st., is now the head, while the lowest is only 4 st. 9 lb. Old Alonzo, who is now eleven years old, heads the 33 acceptances out of 93 at Northampton; Fisherman is top weight in both the Epsom handicaps, where each race retains about half its entries; Fandango, 9 st. 3 lb., gallantly says "content" among 46 in the Great Northern Handicap, some wretched creature at 4 st. 4 lb. bringing up the rear; and, in the Newmarket Handicap, Alepo, raised to 8 st. 12 lb., is in the van, so that the quality of the Heath acceptors is not very high. The Liverpool Steeplechase bids fair to have a large field, as only 17 out of the 69 have been scratched, and the rest, headed by Escape, 11 st. 2 lb., present, as has been remarked, a complete array of "thirty pound betting-office trash." Mr. Topham's determination to stand out against high weights is well known, and hence this once-famed contest has sunk into a mere light-weight scurry in his hands. In fact, no gentleman will send a hunter of any value to run at such feather weights, in such wretched company. There was a time when sportsmen felt proud of having a horse in it; now they do not think it even worth going to see.

The £470 subscription has been distributed among the seven injured jockeys, all of whom are up and doing again. Bartholemew gets £80 for his "concussion of the brain," and the same is given to two others for "broken leg" and "severe injuries" respectively. Ashmall gets £50 for "a broken collarbone"—rather high considering his short illness; and four "contusions" receive £20 each. The liberality of the racing world, which was never yet known to fail, has shone forth especially here, and it is a most providential termination to what looked a most appalling accident.

Weatherbit was sold at Tattersall's for 400 gs. on Tuesday; Fly-Night was bought in for 700 gs.; and there was scarcely one bid for Vindex, whose reserve price was exceedingly high.

It is finally arranged that the present master of the Cheshire is to give up the country at the end of the present season, which is one season short of the three for which he took it originally. He has not been able to draw any of his best country, and hence Edwards and his celebrated whip, Tom Rance, have been perpetually obliged to stop the hounds in the midst of a run. The men are well up to the mark and very well mounted. Poor Markwell, the Cheshire huntsman under Captain White, died last Saturday morning, near the scene of his old labours. The gentlemen of the hunt were exceedingly kind to him; and, although he sufficiently recovered from his internal injury received from a fall while hunting a Scotch pack last season) to come out of the Chester Infirmary in May, he never knew any real health afterwards. He was in earlier days a great man with Mr. Musters.

The wooden fox at Tattersall's looks down from the top of its pump, all tied round with straw, at hosts of frozen-out huntsmen and their "governors" beneath, who flock up there on Mondays for sheer lack of something better to do. They have not, however, much reason to grumble so far, as till the present frost commenced, there had hardly

been ten non-hunting days. The *Sporting Review* (which has a capital engraving of Fandango after Harry Hall) states, with reference to Jack Morgan's resignation of his place as first whip to Lord Henry Bentinck next May, that he had the offer of being field-huntsman to his Lordship this season, while Dick Barton was to have been installed as kennel-huntsman, but that he declined it. The West Kent hounds (a fifty-couple bitch pack) and the stud will be sold at Tattersall's on Monday, unless a private purchaser steps in. A proposition to erect a memorial to "old Will Smith," of the Brocklesby, progresses steadily. It will be placed near Barnoldby Church, on the very spot where he met his death. The committee thought at first of erecting an obelisk, but we believe that they now contemplate a small pillar, inscribed with his name and the date of his death, and planted round with evergreens. Mr. Nainby, of Barnoldby, has generously presented the plot of ground for the purpose, and the requisite amount is being collected in small subscriptions. Four or five generations of Smiths have hunted these hounds, and Tom, the present huntsman, bids fair to be as popular as his ill-fated father.

Thursday and Friday constitute the new fixture for the Oundle Steeplechases, which would have been a very merry affair if they had come off at the right season, as the "little town in the woodlands" was quite full of sheeted horses and "wasting" jockeys. The frost has played sad havoc with coursing meetings; and, for the second time this season, the Newmarket meeting, which is fixed for next Monday and the following days, seems in sad jeopardy of being put off. The order has been so lost, and meetings have become so huddled together, that it is impossible at this moment to say how the list stands. The original fixtures, however, for the week include Bedlington, on Monday; Malton, Audlem, and Hall Place (Berkshire), on Tuesday; and Knipe Scar, on Thursday. Four of Mr. Randall's celebrated greyhounds—Reverell, Rhapsody, Radiant, and Archibald—are in the market, along with Raven, the dam of the two former, and a rare specimen of the Foremost and Black Fly blood. For those who desire to read about greyhound training there can be no more agreeable amusement than the letters of some celebrated greyhound-owners on the subject in the newest edition of the "Coursing Annual." It is there given as Mr. McGeorge's remark, that Luot was the best greyhound he ever rode to.

TATTERSALL'S.—THURSDAY EVENING.

LIVERPOOL STEEPLECHASE.—100 to 8 agst Emigrant (off.), 13 to 1 agst Minos (t), 29 to 1 agst Freestador (t), 25 to 1 agst Cases (t), 10 to 1 agst Sir Collin, 30 to 1 agst Rogerthorpe (t), 30 to 1 agst Claret (t), 50 to 1 agst Swynndel Dyghia (t), 50 to 1 agst Alice (t). NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.—10 to 1 agst Skirmisher (t). DERBY.—16 to 1 agst Tournament (t), 50 to 1 agst Messenger (t).

HUNTING JUBILEE.—On the 28th ult., in the Assembly-room, Blandford, a grand dinner was given to celebrate the hunting jubilee of J. J. Farquharson, Esq., who for fifty years has been sole master and entire supporter of a pack of foxhounds, totally independent of any subscriptions—a circumstance unparalleled in the history of hunting. Two hundred and fifty guests sat down to a splendid entertainment; T. R. Radcliffe, Esq., the Sheriff of the county, in the chair—supported on his right by J. J. Farquharson, Esq., Lord Ashley, Gerald Sturt, Esq., M.P., J. J. Farquharson, Esq., jun.; on his left Lord Digby, J. Floyer, Esq., General Porter, Captain Sturt, M.P., J. D. Dayner, Esq., &c. The room was tastefully decorated with laurel and evergreens, and appropriate devices of fox-hunting—four hunting prints and two paintings. On a canopy erected at the head of the room was the elegant vase presented to Mr. Farquharson in 1834; and on each side were the candelabra presented on the present occasion. The usual toasts and speeches, enlivened by songs, kept it up to a late hour. Had the weather permitted, there would have been a meet of the foxhounds on the following morning.

FORTY DEGREES BELOW ZERO.—The terrible storm which began here on Sunday afternoon continued with unexampled violence until last night. It also extended for a great distance in every direction, reaching from the seaboard to the lakes, and from the Potomac to Canada. The cold of Sunday we think has not been equalled in this region at least, within the present century. All along the northern frontier the mercury went down ten, twenty, and thirty degrees below zero; and at Watertown, in this State, the quicksilver froze up at thirty-seven below; while a spirit thermometer marked forty degrees below zero, or seventy-two degrees below the freezing-point. The "oldest inhabitant" is beaten at last. He cannot recall the equal of the cold Sunday of 1857. In and around this city the snow began to fall on Sunday afternoon, and continued with little intermission until Monday evening. The depth cannot be ascertained because of the drifting, but would probably be at least a foot. No railroad trains arrived or departed yesterday, consequently no mails were received. Harbour navigation is difficult and dangerous, while the Sound is completely shut up.—*New York Tribune*, Jan. 21.

NIGHT SKATING-MATCH.—The opening of the Houses of Parliament has caused a great influx of members of the nobility and gentry to the metropolis, most of whom have visited the different Royal parks to witness the thousands of persons who were enjoying the exhilarating exercise of skating. From the early hour of eight in the morning the carriage-drives in Hyde-park have been literally studded with the rich equipages belonging to the aristocracy, filled with members of the nobility and their friends. The announcement that a night skating-match was to come off on Wednesday attracted a large number of ladies and gentlemen to the Serpentine; and not fewer than 15,000 persons were upon the ice. The reflection from the flambeaux had a very picturesque effect. Mr. Superintendent Williams, upon seeing so great a number of persons upon the ice, had a number of ice-men sent out in case of any accident taking place; but it was some hours before the parties could be induced to leave. Not less than ten persons were removed to the Royal Humane Society's receiving-house with severely cut heads, by falling upon the ice, or by being cut by the points of skates, where their wounds were dressed.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

COMPARED with the previous week, we have had more firmness in the value of Home Stocks, the fluctuations in which, however, have been trifling. The public have continued to purchase Consols rather freely; but the late heavy sales have left rather a large supply in the hands of the jobbers, whose attention will be directed for some time to the approaching discussion in the House of Commons on the renewal of the Bank Charter Act. Numerous opinions have been expressed in reference to future alterations in the Act in question; but it is patent to all that some sweeping but wholesome change is necessary to enable the moneyed interest to keep pace with the wants and energy of the times. The mercantile classes are suffering from unusually dear money, and the trade of the country is consequently checked, from the impossibility of the Bank of England, as well as private and other banks, meeting the demand for discount accommodation.

The applications to the Bank this week have been less numerous; yet there has not been the slightest relaxation in the rate for money. A few very superior bills—short dated—have been done in Lombard-street, at 5½ to 6 per cent; but the lowest value of discount for paper having four months to run is 6½ to 6¾ per cent.

There is still a demand for gold on Continental account, and we understand that the whole of the supply almost daily expected from Australia will be purchased for the Bank of France. We have had an import of over two million dollars from Mexico; nevertheless, over £100,000 in gold has been withdrawn from the Bank of England to purchase silver, which latter metal has rather declined in value. Amongst other shipments we have to notice the export of nearly one million sterling to India and China. The continuous export of bullion to the East operates seriously against our Money Market, and naturally induces great caution on the part of the leading bankers in making advances.

The enhanced value of goods has operated as a decided check to the sales of manufactured commodities in the provinces. Everywhere complaints are made of the dearthness of the raw material, which is by far the greatest proof that could be adduced of the great extent of our trade; besides which—in the event of that trade continuing to flourish—it forms a most powerful argument in favour of a greater abundance of money.

The Consol Market on Monday was steady, and prices were a shade higher than on Saturday. The Unfunded Debt likewise slightly recovered from its former depression. Bank Stock was done at 217½. The Three per Cents Reduced marked 93½; Consols, for Money, 92½ to 93½; New Three per Cents, 93½; India Bonds, 3s. dis. to par; Exchequer Bills, 3s. dis. to 1s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 98½. There was a further slight advance in the quotations on Tuesday; but the market was by no means active.—The Three per Cents Reduced were done at 93½; Consols for Money, 92½ to 93½; Ditto for Account, 93½; New Three per Cents, 93½; Long Annuities, 1860, 2½; 1855, 18 1-16; India Stock, 219; Bank Stock, 217½; India Bonds were par; Exchequer Bills, par to 3s. prem.; Exchequer Bonds, 98½. On the following day prices were very firm.—The Reduced Three per Cents realised 93½; Consols, 93½ to 93½; New Three per Cents, 93½; India Bonds, 3s. dis. to 1s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, par to 2s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 98½. On Thursday the Directors of the Bank of England made no change in the rates of discount, yet National Stocks were dull and rather drooping. Consols for Money were at 92½; and for the Account, 93½; Exchequer Bills were 1s. dis. to 2s. prem.; the Bonds, 98½; Bank Stock was 217½.

The transactions in the Foreign House have been very moderate; nevertheless, prices generally have ruled firm. Brazilian Five per Cents have marked 102½; Mexican Three per Cents, 21½; Peruvian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 79; Portuguese Three per Cents, 44½; Russian Five per Cents, 108½ to 109; Russian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 93½ to 97; Spanish New Deferred, 23½; Spanish Committee's Certificate of Coupon, not funded, 63 per cent; Turkish Six per Cents, 93½; Turkish Four per Cents, 100½ to 101½, ex div.; Venezuela Four-and-a-quarter per Cents, 37½; Venezuela One-and-a-quarter per Cents Deferred, 15½; Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents, 65½; Dutch Four per Cents, 98½; Ecuador New Consolidated, 14½; Guatemala Five per Cents, 58 ex div.; Swedish Four per Cents, 96½.

All Joint-Stock Bank Shares have been very firm in price; indeed, in some instances, the quotations have had an upward tendency. Australasia have realised 96; Bank of Egypt, 19; British North American, 69½; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 5½; London Chartered of Australia, 18½; London and County, 32½; London Joint-Stock, 32½; London and Westminster, 47½ ex div. and bonus; National Provincial of England, New, 15½; Oriental, 34; Ottoman, 14½; Provincial of Ireland, 49; Union of Australia, 62 ex div.; South Australia, 35½; Union of London, 26½; and Western Bank of London, 42.

We have very little change to notice in the value of Miscellaneous Securities, in which a moderate business has been passing.—London Docks, 99; St. Katharine, 91½ ex div.; East and West India, 119; Australian Agricultural, 21; Canada Government Six per Cents, 110½; Crystal Palace, 2½ ex div.; Electric Telegraph, 94; London Omnibus Company, 4; National Discount Company, 5½; Ditto, New, 5½; New South Wales Debenture, 99; North of Europe Steam, 13½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 63; Royal Mail Steam, 62; Scottish Australian Investment, New, 1½; South Australian Land, 35½; Berlin Waterworks, 5½; East London, 112 ex div.; Grand Junction, 75; Kent, 81; Lambeth, 95; West Middlesex, 98½ ex div.

The Railway Share Market has been in a tolerably healthy state; and, in most instances, a slight improvement has taken place in prices. The ascertained "calls" for the present month now amount to £388,773. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Abergate, Nottingham, and Boston, 4½; Eastern Counties, 9½; East Lancashire, 9½; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 54½; Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee, 34½; Great Western, 65½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 96½; London and Brighton, 107 ex div.; London and North-Western, 106½; London and South-Western, 106½; Midland, 82½; North British, 40½; North-Eastern, Berwick, 85; Ditto, Leeds, 18; Ditto, York, 61½; North Staffordshire, 12½; Scottish North-Eastern, Aberdeen Stock, 25½; Ditto, Scottish Midland Stock, 72; South Devon, 17½; South-Eastern, 73½; West-end of London and Crystal Palace, B, 5½.

MINES LEASED AT FIXED RENTALS.—East Lincolnshire, 136; London and Greenwich Preference, 23½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Chester and Holyhead, 114½; Eastern Counties Extension, No. 2, 3 prem.; Ditto, New Six per Cent Stock, 12½; London and Brighton New Six per Cent, 137½ ex div.; Midland Consolidated—Leicester and Hithin, 90; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 112; South Devon, 163; Waterford and Kilkenny, 3.

BRITISH POSSESSIONS.—East Indian, 109½; Geelong and Melbourne, 21½; Grand Trunk of Canada, 51½; Ditto, Six per Cent Debentures, 82½; Great Indian Peninsula, 20½; Great Western of Canada, 24½; Ditto, New, 108½; Ditto, 1873, 108½; Madras, 194.

FOREIGN.—Antwerp and Rotterdam, 6½; Belgian Eastern Junction, 1½; Dutch Rhenish, 12½ ex div.; Great Luxembourg, 5½; Paris and Lyons, 64½.

The Mining Share Market has been steady. On Thursday Cobre Copper marked 55½ ex div.; Fortuna, 1½; and Santiago de Cuba, 2½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE, Feb. 2.—The supply of English wheat in to-day's market was very moderate as to quantity, but in somewhat improved condition. Only a limited business was transacted in all kinds, at about last week's currency. We were well supplied with foreign wheat, which moved off slowly, on former terms. Floating cargoes were dull. The show of both English and foreign barley was on the increase, and most descriptions met a dull inquiry, at the late decline in value. Malt sold heavily, and previous rates were with difficulty supported. Oats—the show of which was by no means extensive—were at slow inquiry, on former terms. Beans and peas were dull, but not cheaper. Flour was held for rather more money.

Feb. 4.—Most articles of produce were in moderate supply, and sluggish request, at Monday's currency.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 48s. to 60s.; ditto, white, 50s. to 60s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 48s. to 60s.; rye, 38s. to 40s.; grinding barley, 30s. to 32s.; distilling ditto, 30s. to 38s.; malting ditto, 37s. to 40s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 60s. to 75s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 68s.; Kingston and Ware, 68s. to 75s.; Chevalier, 75s. to 77s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 24s. to 25s.; potato ditto, 25s. to 32s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 20s. to 25s.; ditto, white, 21s. to 23s.; tick beans, 32s. to 34s.; grey peas, 37s. to 38s.; maple, 39s. to 40s.; white, 38s. to 40s.; boilers, 38s. to 41s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 56s. to 60s.; Suffolk, 39s. to 40s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 40s. to 41s. per 280 lb. American flour, 24s. to 33s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Lined seeds move off freely, and the quotations have an upward tendency. In other seeds very little has been doing. Cakes are quite as dear as last week.

Lined.—English crushing, 68s. to 70s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 61s. to 68s.; hempseed, 42s. to 41s. per quarter. Coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt. Brown mustard seed, 20s. to 22s.; ditto, white, 18s. to 20s.; fennel, 5s. 6d. to 6s. per bushel. English rapeseed, 82s. to 84s. per quarter. Lined cakes, English, £10 0s. to £11 0s.; ditto, foreign, £10 6s. to £11 10s.; rape cakes, £5 10s. to £6 10s. per ton. Canary, 68s. to 74s. per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 9d. to 9½d. of household ditto, 7½d. to 8½d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 57s. 11d.; barley, 46s. 5d.; oats, 23s. 4d.; rye, 33s. 1d.; beans, 40s. 5d.; peas, 39s. 7d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 58s. 9d.; barley, 45s. 3d.; oats, 23s. 6d.; rye, 32s. 11d.; beans, 41s. 2d.; peas, 39s. 11d.

English Grain Sold last week.—Wheat, 104,611; barley, 90,376; oats, 17,793; rye, 153; beans, 6583; peas, 2160 quarters.

Tea.—Our market is less excited, yet several large parcels of common sound oolong have realised 1s. 1d. per lb.

Sugar.—All raw qualities have been in steady request, at fully last week's advance in the quotations. West India has sold at 46s. to 56s.; Mauritius, 40s. 6d. to 57s. 6d.; Bengal, 51s. to 58s.; Madras, 41s. to 45s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods have sold readily, at 63s. 6d. to 65s. 6d. per cwt.

Coffee.—The demand for all colonial sorts is active, at very full prices. About 4000 bags good ordinary native Ceylon have realised 7s. 5d. to 57s. 6d. per cwt.

Rice.—Our market is flat, owing to the immense supply of rice on offer. In prices, however, no change has taken place.

Provisions.—The butter market has rather improved this week, and prices have ruled in favour of sellers. Bacon, however, is dull, and the turn lower. In other provisions very little is doing.

Tallow.—There is a steady business passing in this article, and P.Y.C., on the spot, has changed hands at 61s. 6d. to 62s. per cwt. The stock is very limited.

Oil.—Lined oil, on the spot, £42 per ton. All other oils support former terms. Turpentine is dull, at 43s. to 45s. for spirits, and 10s. 6d. for rough.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £2 10s. to £2 4s.; clover, ditto, £3 10s. to £5 5s.; and straw, £1 4s. to £1 9s. per ton.

Cattle.—Hartford, 17s.; Evesham, 17s. 9d.; Haswell, 19s.; Hilton, 19s.; Lambton, 18s. 6d.; Stewart's, 19s.; Caspary, 17s. 9d.; Killoe, 18s. 3d.; Tees, 19s.; Whitworth, 18s. 6d. per ton.

Spirits.—Both rum and brandy command very little attention, yet holders count no firm, and prices are well supported. Corn spirits are rather lower to purchase.

Hops.—The show of samples is tolerably good, and a moderate business is doing, at full quotations—Mid and East Kent pockets, £3 15s. to £5 15s.; Waird of Kent, £3 5s. to £3 5s.; Sussex, £3 5s. to £4; Worcester, £4 4s. to £5 5s.; Yearling, £1 10s. to £3 18s. per cwt.

Wool.—Our market is very firm, and prices generally are well supported.

Potatoes.—The supplies are seasonably good, and the trade is steady, at from 7s. to 13s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—This market has been but moderately supplied with fat stock. Generally speaking, the trade has ruled firm, as follows:

Beef, from 3s. 4d. to 5s.; Mutton, 4s. to 5s. 6d.; veal, 4s. to 5s. 8d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 2d. per cwt., to sink the oil.

Neufgate and Leadenhall.—Each kind of meat has been in fair request, at full prices:—Beef, from 3s. to 4s. 6d.; mutton, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; veal, 4s. to 5s. 2d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 4d. per cwt. by the carcase.

ROBERT HEBBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, JAN. 30.

WAR OFFICE, JANUARY 30.

2nd Dragoon Guards: Assist. Surg. J. H. Rowbottom to be Assistant Surgeon.

3rd: Capt. C. Tower to be Captain.

4th: E. O. Pearce to be Paymaster.

7th: Assist. Surg. O. Smith to be Assistant Surgeon.

8th Dragoon Guards: Capt. A. Hunt to be Captain.

BANKRUPTS.

G. GROOM, Norwich, boot and shoe maker.—J. E. L.L. Liverpool, tea dealer.—J. JONES, Preston, tailor.—W. DOEG and J. SKELTON, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, timber merchants.—E. CROWTHER, Manchester, merchant and commission agent.—J. RUPCHIE, Church-street, Lancashire, licensed victualler.—J. A. PERVINGIN, Old Broad-street, merchant.—W. WOODS, Euston-street, Southwark, iron and wire manufacturer.—W. WHITE, New Crane Mill, Shrewsbury, miller.—ELEANOR FOULKE, Newmarket, Suffolk, grocer.—J. F. LAWRENCE, Sharncliffe, upholsterer.—G. BASKERVILLE, Talk-on-the-Hill, Staffordshire, innkeeper.—W. BURT, Saint Stevens by Llaneston, builder.

TUESDAY, FEB. 3.

BANKRUPTS.

J. BRYAN, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn, electro-plater.—S. BAKER, Birmingham, iron founder.—J. C. WHARTON, Stourbridge, licensed victualler.—W. TYLEY, King's-bombay, miller.—G. WOODALL, Carlisle, grocer.—J. A. HARTFIELD, Bradford, Yorkshire, draper.—J. HOLMES, Bramham, Yorkshire, builder.—J. WILKS, Whitby, butcher.

SCOTCH SUCCESSIONS.

W. DONALDSON, Edinburgh, tailor.—J. CHALMERS, Glasgow, draper.—J. FER-GUSON, Logie, Stirlingshire, cooper.

BIRTHS.

On the 27th December, at Schoin Hof Döckenheim, Frankfurt-on-the-Maine, the wife of Frederick Cowper, jun., Esq., of a son.

On the 2nd inst., at 16, Somerset-street, Portman-square, the wife of Wm. O. Priestley, M.D., of a son.

On the 30th ult., at 11, Manor-place, Edinburgh, the wife of James Ivory, Esq., of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On Thursday, Jan. 29, 1857, at Trinity Church, Yeovil, Somerset, by the Rev. J. D. Elliott, Mr. Edwin Edwards, to Emma Jane, only daughter of Mr. William Noale, draper.

DEATH.

On the 31st January, at 31, Ladbrooke-square, Philip Herbert, youngest child of Philip Smith Firmin, aged five months.

ROYAL SURREY GARDENS.—First Grand Ball.—The SURREY BACHELORS' SEVENIETH ANNUAL BALL will take place in the Large Hall, as above, on MONDAY, the 16th of FEBRUARY. Tickets, 5s. 6d.; 7s. 6d.; double, 11s. 6d.; at the principal music-sellers, the Walworth Institution, and at the Gardens.

ART-UNION OF LONDON.—(By Royal Charter.)—Fiftyholders select for themselves from the Public Exhibitions. Every subscriber of One Guinea will have, immediately on the opening of the Exhibition, the privilege of purchasing the choice of a Prize, two prizes—"The Clannery of Gaur de Lion," by H. C. Chentom, from the Historical Picture by John Urean, which gained the Government premium of £300—and "The Piper," by E. Goodall, after F. Goodall, A.R.A.

GEORGE GODWIN, } Honorary
LEWIS POCOCK, } Secretaries.
111, West Strand, 14th January, 1857.

HANWELL COLLEGE AND PREPARATORY SCHOOL.—The TERMS of this long-established, economical, and successful institution may be had on application to the Principal. A.B. Unusual and very peculiar advantages are afforded to Young Gentlemen destined for India.

INDIA and PERSIA.—The increasing importance of the CULTIVATION of the ORIENTAL LANGUAGES, and the immediate advantages that result from their acquisition, have induced the Principal of HANWELL COLLEGE, Middlesex, to make arrangements for affording instruction therein. The rudiments of Hindustani, Persian, and Arabic will be taught to all who are intended for employment in the East, and the more advanced Pupils will be prepared for examination on their arrival in India.

The Course of Instruction includes not only that which is necessary to pass at Admissions or Matriculations, but all that may be requisite for those who are destined to pursue an Indian career. The History and Geography of the country, and the general features of Anglo-Indian life, are taught by a gentleman whose personal acquaintance with India, from long residence there, particularly qualify him for the duties he has undertaken. Apply personally or by letter to the Rev. J. A. Emerton, D.D., Hanwell College, Middlesex.

SMART'S WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent-circus.—Open from Ten till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received (privately) and taught at any time suiting their own convenience. Lessons one hour each. No classes, no extra payment. Pupils are taught in eight to twelve seasons. Separate rooms for Ladies, to which department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend.—Apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

UNIVERSITY of LONDON.—A Graduate in honours prepares Pupils in the evening for Matriculation of Degrees, in Arts or Laws.—J. D. K. Post-office, Leigh-street, W. C.

PROVIDENT LIFE OFFICE.

No. 59, Regent-street; City Branch, No. 14, Cornhill, London. Established 1806. Policyholders' Capital, £1,369,701. Annual Income, £173,905. Bonuses Declared, £987,007. Claims paid since the establishment of the Office, £2,600,838.

DIRECTORS.
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SECRETARY—John Hoddinott, Esq.
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The Profits (subject to a trifling deduction) are divided among the Insured. The plan upon which they are divided gives to each party insured a share proportionate to the amount of the Premiums he has contributed.

In addition to this advantage which is now offered to the Policyholders in this Office, an annual addition or bonus is made to each Policy in anticipation of the Quarterly Dividend of Profits.

The following Extract, from the List of Claims paid by the "Provident," is published with the sanction of the parties interested in the Policies, some of whom have accompanied their acknowledgments of the unexpected advantages with an earnest desire that the widest circulation may be given to the publication.

No. of Policy.	Date of Policy.	Life Insured.	Sum Insured.	Sum Paid.
2096	1819	John Bennett, Esq., M.P., Fyfe-house, Wilt.	5000	8167 9 0
2790	1815	Sir William Earle Welby, Bart., Denton House, near Grantham	3000	5393 6 0
2785	1818	Count Wratislaw, Ruzby	20 0	3214 9 7
6776	1829	The Right Hon. Earl of Portland	1000	2301 13 11
3028	1820	Thomas Worthington, Esq., Dublin	1000	1497 4 7
6905	1829	Henry G. Bevan, Esq., Lincolncity	1000	1777 3 8
3150	1819	Mrs. Frances Richardson, Knarles	500	1001 15 2
6392	1821	"Ditto, ditto	500	1001 15 2
1258	1811	Mr. George Burnell, York	500	1070 15 9

When a personal application is attended with inconvenience, full particulars may be obtained upon application by a letter, addressed "To the Agent of the Provident Life Office," to any of the principal towns throughout the United Kingdom, or "To the Directors, 59, Regent-street."

THE LONDON AND BIRMINGHAM IRON and HARDWARE COMPANY (Limited). Offices and Warehouse, 253, Blackfriars-road, London.

Capital £50,000, in 10,000 shares of £50 each. Deposit £2 per share.
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James Melrose, Esq., Hatton-garden, and Tivdale, near Du Puy.
Henry Whitley Wood, Esq., 11, Leadenhall-street.

ACHTOR.
To be chosen at first Meeting of the Shareholders.
BANKERS.
London Joint-Stock Bank, Princes-street, Mansion-house.

SECRETARY.
Mr. Edwin Guest.
This Company, as a commencement, have purchased an old-established business, with one of the largest stocks in London, situated at the corner of Holland-street, 253, Blackfriars-road, and 32, John-street, the late proprietor of which, Mr. Frederick F. Shaw, has engaged to continue in the active management of the concern, and to make his remuneration nominal, till after the Shareholders have received eight per cent dividend. From a most reasonable estimate it is calculated that fifteen per cent will be the lowest dividend ever paid. Applications for the remaining shares may be made to the Secretary, at the Offices, 253, Blackfriars-road.

UNITY FIRE and LIFE ASSOCIATIONS, UNITY-BUILDINGS, CANNON-STREET, CITY.

Appointment of Manager.
The Directors have the pleasure to inform the Shareholders of the above Association and the public, that they have appointed Mr. THOMAS GRAY, Sub-Manager of the Royal Insurance Company, and formerly of the Liverpool and London, to be their Manager and Secretary. They feel convinced that this appointment will meet with the cordial approval of their constituency, and ensure the complete confidence of the public.

The Directors take this opportunity of announcing that the Ordinary General Meeting of the Unity Fire will, in pursuance of the terms of the Deed of Settlement, be held in the month of March next, of which due notice will be given.

It is requested that all official communications be addressed to Thomas Gray, Esq., Manager, Unity-buildings, Cannon-street, London. By order of the Boards.

SECRETARY WANTED.—The ASSOCIATION in aid of the DEAF and DUMB, 15, Bedford-row, London, is desirous of engaging the services of a gentleman, a member of the Church of England, and acquainted with the sign language, to act as Secretary and Superintendent. Applications, which should state terms, will be received until the 20th instant by the Hon. Secretary, from whom also any information required may be obtained.

THE CONTINENTAL WINE COMPANY, Birken-lane, Cornhill, continue to supply their ALTO PORTWINE, PORTS, &c., per dozen. Pure or Gold Sherry, at 3s. and 3s. 6d. Orders must contain a remittance.

SHERRY, the least acid of any wine imported, taking precedence of Port, Champagne, Claret, Madeira, Burgundy, Rhine, and Moselle, which follow in the order named. Professor Johnston's "Chemistry of Common Life," p. 332. "Natty sherry, pale, pure, unbranded, without acidity." 3s. per dozen, cash, carriage-free.—G. H. HARVEY, 13, John-street, Adelphi, Strand.

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From the immense business done by this house with country customers, P. R. is enabled to supply large orders at a very reasonable cost, and to send goods for selection to any part free of expense. Always on hand, a very large stock of SKIRTS, MANTLES, and BONNETS; Also every description of Goods in the Piece, warranted of the best manufacture, and at moderate prices. Complete suits for WIDOWS' and CHILDREN'S MOURNING kept made up ready for immediate use; and a note to the warehouse, descriptive of the Mourning required, will ensure its being sent forthwith.
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all highly recommended for durable wear.—Patterns free, to be obtained only at PETER ROBINSON'S Family Mourning Warehouse, 103, Oxford-street, London.

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LADIES' PATENT RAILWAY SAFETY LOCKET should be possessed by every lady, 1s. 6d. Quilted Australian Wool Petticoats (any shape), 17s. 6d. to 21s. The Royal Woven Petticoats, reduced to 7s. 6d. and 12s. 6d. The Victoria Crinoline Petticoat (lined flannel), 12s. 6d. and 15s. 6d. Parisian Eugénie Hooped Skeleton Petticoats, 5s. 6d. to 25s. Address WILLIAM CARTER, 22, Ludgate-street, London, E.C.

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MESSRS. HOWE, JAMES, and CO., beg to inform their patrons and the public that, in order to make a clearance of last year's stock, and to prepare for the reception of their SPRING NOVELTIES, they have caused such a reduction to be made in every department of their Establishment as they think is calculated to effect their object.

THE REDUCED STOCK will be ready on MONDAY next, and following days, on which occasion they respectfully invite a visit, being confident that the goods are now reduced to prices very advantageous to purchasers.—5, 7, 9, Regent-street, February 5th.

30s. LADIES' FLANNEL DRESSING-GOWNS.—Pink, Sky, Claret, Grey, Cerise, China-Blue, and Scarlet, trimmed with Shawl Borders, lined throughout, and a Silk Girdle included. Patterns of the flannels sent by post.—A. HISCOCK, Ladies' Outfitter, 54, Regent-street Quadrant.

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THE BELMONT GLYCERINE SOAP contains Price's Pure Glycerine, distilled by their patent process, from Palm Oil. It is recommended for washing infants and shaving; it softens the skin, and is a most agreeable toilet soap for general use. PRICE'S CANDLES, which will not drip or smoke when carried. These, used as chamber candles, prevent damage to dresses and carpets. They should be burnt in the candlesticks made especially for them in imitation bronze, with cotton-branch stems, and palm leaf feet, having stamped round the edge, "Price's Patent Candle Company, Limited." All the above may now be had retail through Messrs. Draper, or Furness, or Leonard.
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Wool Mattresses	" 0 7 6 " 4 9 0
Wool Mattresses	" 0 6 6 " 0 18 0
Blankets (each)	" 0 2 6 " 2 6 0
Blankets (each)	" 0 3 0 " 1 4 0
Blankets (each)	" 0 4 0 " 1 7 6
Counterpanes	" 0 12 6 " 0 15 0
Portable Folding Bedsteads	" 0 12 6 " 0 15 0
Portable Folding Bedsteads, with drawers	" 0 15 0 " 0 20 0
Ornamental Brass ditto	" 0 15 0 " 0 20 0
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OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE fifth Session of the fourth Parliament of Queen Victoria was opened on Tuesday last by Royal Commission. The ceremony was, of course, of a purely formal character. The presence of the Sovereign, which gives éclat to all public acts of a ceremonial character, was wanting on this occasion; and the House of Lords presented anything but the imposing appearance which it always wears when Peers and Peersesses, the Diplomatic Corps, and the *illustrissimi* of the land assemble to greet the Sovereign at the opening of a new Session. The severity of the weather also tended to keep away many who would otherwise have been present at the ceremony. The doors of the House were thrown open at one o'clock, when some fifty or sixty ladies were admitted to the third and fourth rows of benches usually occupied by Peers. The attendance of Peers was limited to six. Of these five took their seats on the lower bench nearest the throne on the Opposition side of the chamber; Lord Willoughby d'Eresby, Lord Berners, and the Earl of Erne were among the number. The only Peer on the Government bench was Earl Cowper. The Bishop of Lincoln attended in his place to say prayers.

At half-past one the great bell of Westminster commenced a rather solemn peal, and continued to thunder forth its summons in anything but jocund strains till two o'clock, when the Lords Commissioners, preceded by the Usher of the Black Rod, made their appearance in the House and took their seats in front of the throne. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Stanley of Alderley, the Earl of Harrowby, and Earl Spencer. The Royal commission having been read, her Majesty's faithful Commons were summoned by Sir Augustus Clifford; and the Speaker, accompanied by Lord Palmerston, Mr. Bouverie, Mr. Rochuck, Mr. Bowyer, Sir S. Bignold, Sir W. Clay, Mr. Hindley, Mr. Scott, Mr. Swift, Mr. Oliveira, Colonel Dunne, Mr. Otway, Mr. Craufurd, and about a hundred other members, appeared at the bar. The Lord Chancellor then read the following Speech:—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

We are commanded to assure you that her Majesty has great satisfaction in recurring again to the advice and assistance of her Parliament.

We are commanded by her Majesty to inform you that difficulties, which arose in regard to some of the provisions of the Treaty of Paris, delayed the complete execution of the stipulations of that Treaty. Those difficulties have been overcome in a satisfactory manner, and the intentions of the Treaty have been fully maintained.

An insurrectionary movement which took place in September last in the Swiss Canton of Neuchâtel, for the purpose of re-establishing in that Canton the authority of the King of Prussia as Prince of Neuchâtel, led to serious differences between his Prussian Majesty and the Swiss Confederation, threatening at one time to disturb the general peace of Europe.

But her Majesty commands us to inform you that, in concert with her august ally the Emperor of the French, she is endeavouring to bring about an amicable settlement of the matters in dispute, and her Majesty entertains a confident expectation that an honourable and satisfactory arrangement will be concluded.

In consequence of certain discussions which took place during the Conferences at Paris, and which are recorded in the Protocols that were laid before you, her Majesty and the Emperor of the French caused communications to be made to the Government of the King of the Two Sicilies, for the purpose of inducing him to adopt a course of policy calculated to avert dangers which might disturb that Peace which had been so recently restored to Europe.

Her Majesty commands us to inform you, that the manner in which those friendly communications were received by his Sicilian Majesty was such as to lead her Majesty and the Emperor of the French to discontinue their diplomatic relations with his Sicilian Majesty, and they have, accordingly, withdrawn their missions from the Court of Naples.

Her Majesty has directed that papers relating to this subject shall be laid before you.

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that she has been engaged in negotiations with the Government of the United States, and also with the Government of Honduras, which she trusts will be successful in removing all cause of misunderstanding with respect to Central America.

Her Majesty has concluded a Treaty of Friendship and Commerce with Siam, which will be laid before you.

Her Majesty commands us to express to you her regret that the conduct of the Persian Government has led to hostilities between her Majesty and the Shah of Persia. The Persian Government, in defiance of repeated warnings, and in violation of its engagements, has besieged and captured the important city of Herat.

We are commanded by her Majesty to inform you that a British naval and military force dispatched from Bombay has taken possession of the Island of Karrak, and of the town of Bushir, with a view to induce the Shah to accede to the just demands of her Majesty's Government. Her Majesty has seen with satisfaction that the naval and military forces employed on this occasion have displayed their accustomed gallantry and spirit.

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that acts of violence, insults to the British flag, and infraction of Treaty rights, committed by the local Chinese authorities at Canton, and a pertinacious refusal of redress, have rendered it necessary for her Majesty's officers in China to have recourse to measures of force to obtain satisfaction.

Those measures had, up to the date of the last accounts, been taken with great forbearance, but with signal success as regards the conflicts to which they had led.

We are commanded to inform you that her Majesty trusts that the Government of Peking will see the propriety of affording the satisfaction demanded, and of faithfully fulfilling its Treaty engagements.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

Her Majesty has directed the Estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you.

They have been prepared with every attention to economy, and with a due regard to the efficient performance of the public service at home and abroad.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that Bills will be submitted to your consideration for the consolidation and the amendment of important portions of the law; and her Majesty doubts not that you will give your earnest attention to matters so deeply affecting the interests of all classes of her subjects.

Her Majesty commands us to recommend to your consideration the expediency of renewing for a further period the privileges of the Bank of England, the conditions imposed on the issue of bank-notes in the United Kingdom, and the state of the law relating to Joint-stock Banks.

Her Majesty commands us to express the gratification which it affords her to witness the general well being and contentment of her people, and to find that, notwithstanding the sacrifices unavoidably attendant upon such a war as that which has lately terminated, the resources of the country remain unimpaired, and its productive industry continues unchecked in its course of progressive development.

Her Majesty commits with confidence the great interests of the country to your wisdom and care, and she fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty God may attend your deliberations, and prosper your councils for the advancement of the welfare and happiness of her loyal and faithful people.

At the conclusion of the Royal Speech the Speaker retired, and prayers were read by the Bishop of Lincoln. The ceremony did not occupy more than half an hour.

Their Lordships met again at five o'clock.

NEW BISHOPS.—The Bishops of London and Gloucester took the oaths and their seats. The former was introduced by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Winchester; and the latter by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Lincoln.

NEW PEER.—Lord Belper also took the oaths and his seat. He was introduced by Lord Overstone and Lord Glenelg.

THE ARMY.—The Earl of CARDIGAN gave notice that, on Thursday, he would put a question to the noble Lord the Secretary of State for War about matters connected with the Army.

RIGHT-OF-LEAVE SYSTEM.—Lord BERNERS gave notice that, on an

early day, he would move for returns of the number of tickets of leave issued to convicts in each year since the commencement of the practice, with their original sentence and their unexpired term of imprisonment, and showing the number who had been reapprehended.

APPEARANCE OF THE HOUSE.—The attendance of Peers was very considerable, and the spaces in front of the throne and below the bar were filled with strangers. The Ministers present were—Earl Granville, the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Earl of Clarendon, Lord Pamunne, the Duke of Argyll, the Earl of Harrowby, and Lord Stanley of Alderley. On the Opposition benches were observed—The Earl of Derby, the Earl of Eglinton, the Earl of Hardwicke, the Earl of Malmesbury, and Lord Colchester. The Duke of Cambridge, Lord Wensleydale, and Earl Fitzwilliam sat on the cross benches; and in other parts of the House there were Lord Brougham, Earl Grey, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Campbell, the Earl of Lucan, &c.

THE ADDRESS.

The LORD CHANCELLOR having read the Royal Speech, and it having been again read by the clerk at the table,

The Earl of CORK rose to move the Address. After briefly referring to the success which had attended the diplomatic efforts of her Majesty's representatives at the Peace Conference, and mentioning in terms of congratulation the failure of the attempt to disturb the peace of Europe by the Neufchâtel émeute, his Lordship proceeded to refer to the Persian war. That extreme step had been forced upon her Majesty's Government, not only by Persia's systematic duplicity, but by the reckless spirit of aggression which had characterised that State's attack upon the city of Herat. The despatches which had recently arrived showed the vigour and success with which her Majesty's Government had punished this unjust infraction of their international treaties. To almost the same causes, and the exclusive spirit of the people, the disputes with the authorities of Canton might be traced. In spite of the heavy taxation which had pressed upon the resources of this kingdom, their Lordships must be glad to observe the general industrial prosperity which prevailed, and which was indicated by the export returns. He could speak more particularly with regard to the sister country, with which he was immediately connected, and which showed a greater diminution of the poor-rates than had existed for some time past. His Lordship concluded by moving the Address in reply.

The Earl of AIRLIE seconded the Address, and was understood to recapitulate the various points touched upon in her Majesty's gracious Speech.

The Earl of DERRY regretted that he could not agree with the encomiums which had been lavished upon the Speech which her Majesty's advisers had presented to Parliament. It was most vague, shadowy, and unsubstantial. The reference to the other House of Parliament was meagre and unsatisfactory in the last degree; in fact, they were merely requested to make the formal financial arrangements which might be necessary for the public service. But in making those arrangements he thought Parliament would be wanting in its duty if it did not demand the fulfilment of its solemn pledge, that the Income-tax should cease and determine in 1860, and on the faith of which the public had consented to its imposition. But, meagre as was the Speech, it did not contain that formerly well-known paragraph in which the Sovereign congratulated the Parliament on the steady maintenance of peace. On the contrary, now the only Sovereign so alluded to was the King of Siam. The other parts in the Speech were almost equally unsatisfactory. It was mentioned with much satisfaction that, in concert with our august ally, we had put the Neufchâtel question in a fair way of being adjusted; whereas he quite believed that if we had not interfered with our august ally at all the whole matter would have been settled more speedily and amicably. But Lord Palmerston had such a peculiar skill in getting out of a difficulty that he seemed to seek such situations. Turning to another portion of the Speech which referred to our relations with Naples, did this country, he asked, always act uprightly? Did it never keep the "promise to the ear and break it to the hope"? Had we not played with the question of Italian liberty, while the principal result of the Paris Conference was to make the Austrian rule in Italy more fixed and more permanent than ever? What was the object, and what result had been achieved by the Neapolitan difficulty, except that England and France had received at the hands of that petty State a deliberate and well-deserved affront? He certainly believed our policy of late had deprived this country of every friend in the world, except France. After dwelling at length upon each step which had produced the Persian war, he proceeded to comment upon the conduct of the Government in not calling Parliament together when that struggle became inevitable. It was useless to call it an Indian war; it was British, and as such should have been declared by the Sovereign of this country, with the consent and approbation of the Parliament. But such remarks applied with still greater force to the proceedings in China, which had filled him with amazement. Was the bombardment of the great commercial city of Canton—the indiscriminate slaughter of innocent and guilty in one common doom—an act of forbearance, as it was termed in the Speech? He confessed he could not look upon the state of our foreign relations without distrust and misgiving. If he did not then move an amendment to the Address it was in the hope that the opinions which he now undoubtedly entertained would be modified by reading the protocols which the Government were of course prepared to lay before their Lordships.

The Earl of CLARENDON was sorry that Lord Derby had not adhered to the usual practice, and refrained from any allusion to foreign topics until he was in possession of the full information which would shortly be laid before the House. Had he waited for these documents it would have saved him from the erroneous impression he appeared to entertain with regard to the Neufchâtel question. Neither the English nor French Government was concerned in any way with the resistance with which the Swiss Government had met the demands of Prussia. It was, indeed, true that her Majesty's Ministers had taken advantage of the Paris Conference to consider the question of the state of Italy, but the course which they had adopted in conjunction with the Emperor of the French had met with the cordial approval of the principal Governments of Europe. With regard to the Persian war, it was very far from being the groundless quarrel which the public seemed quite to believe. The capture of Herat, a city of much importance, and surrounded by a territory of unexampled fertility, was one which could not be regarded with indifference when such a conquest threatened at once the neutrality and independence of Afghanistan, both of which were necessary to the security of our Indian empire. He regretted much to hear the terms in which Lord Derby had spoken of the conduct of the English authorities in China. The course which had been taken was one which had only been resorted to when all other steps failed—when, in fact, the refusal of the Chinese to hold communication with our officials had left the latter no other remedy.

EARL GREY could not characterise the war with Persia as other than unjust and impolitic. It could scarcely be contended that we had the right to dictate the course which an independent nation should pursue in vindicating its interests. Yet such, in fact, was the right claimed by this country in the quarrel between Persia and Herat, without our Government even taking the trouble to ascertain which was in the wrong. If it was the bugbear of Russian influence which our Government professed to dread, the late war showed to every man of sense the groundlessness of such a plea. At the same time, while fearing Russia, we seemed as if bent on working out her ends; for what was more likely to throw Persia into the arms of that Power than the present unjustifiable invasion of her territory and destruction of her little standing army? To counteract Russia, Persia should be strong and attached to our alliance, and not forced into regarding us as her most dangerous and subtle foe. Ministers sought to evade responsibility because they had made no formal declaration of war. But this was far from excusing them; and, if Parliament was to maintain its authority over the advisers of the Crown, it must not pass over this omission. Lord Grey concluded by moving an amendment, to the effect that it was the duty of her Majesty's advisers to summon Parliament together and inform them of the state of affairs with Persia before declaring war.

EARL GRANVILLE defended the course which the Government had taken in the negotiations with Persia, and in the declaration of war through the Governor-General of India instead of at home. Though her Majesty's Government were quite prepared to meet Earl Grey upon any question he might raise, he trusted that the noble Earl was not serious in pressing his amendment at the present juncture.

LORD BROUGHAM spoke strongly against the further continuance of the Income-tax. In 1816 he, in conjunction with Mr. Baring, made a reduction of £6,000,000 or £8,000,000 in the amount of the Income-tax, upon which the Chancellor of the Exchequer withdrew his estimates and framed new ones, on the principle of cutting his coat according to the cloth. His Lordship then reverted to the necessity for a legal reform, especially in those laws relating to secondary punishments.

The LORD CHANCELLOR agreed with what had fallen from the noble and learned Lord as to the necessity for law reform. He had himself given notice that evening of his intention to bring forward at an early period three bills for the purpose of amending the laws relating to marriage and divorce, testamentary jurisdiction, and ecclesiastical law. In the other House a bill would also be brought in to meet those crimes of breach of trust such as had lately shocked the public confidence. His Lordship concluded, after indicating several other reforms of a similar nature to which the Government intended directing their earliest attention; among others a bill which would be brought in by Sir George Grey, having peculiar reference to secondary punishments.

EARL GREY's amendment was then put, and their Lordships divided, when there appeared for the amendment—

Content	12
Not-content	45
Majority against the amendment	33

Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The House of Commons met at two o'clock, and soon after adjourned to the Upper House to hear the Royal Speech read by commission. They then adjourned till four o'clock. At that hour the SPEAKER stated the several writs which he had issued during the recess.

NEW MEMBERS.—The following new members were sworn at the table:—Lord Castlerosse, for the county of Kerry; Mr. Baillie Cochrane, for the county of Lanark; Lord Henniker, for East Suffolk; and Mr. Paget, for the borough of Nottingham.

WRITS MOVED FOR.—New writs were moved for Greenwich, in the room of Mr. Rolt; for Hertford, in the room of Mr. Cowper, who has accepted the office of Vice-President of Education; for the county of Limerick, in the room of Mr. Monsell, who has accepted the office of President of the Board of Health; for Aylesbury, in the room of Sir R. Bethell, now Attorney-General; for Bute, in the room of Mr. Stuart Wortley, now Solicitor-General; for Southampton, in the room of Sir Alexander Cockburn, now Chief Justice of the Common Pleas; for Newport, in the room of Mr. Biggs; for Clonmel, in the room of Mr. John O'Connell, now Clerk of the Exchequer in Ireland; and for Dumfries, in the room of Lord Drumlanrig.—Sir W. JOLLIFFE moved for a new writ for West Kent, in the room of Sir E. Filmer, deceased; and for Bandon, in the room of Lord Bernard, now Earl of Bandon.

GOVERNMENT MEASURES.

MR. HAYTER gave notice that on Tuesday next the Secretary for the Colonies would move for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the condition of the possessions under the administration of the Hudson's Bay Company; that on the same day he would propose a bill to alter the Ecclesiastical Provisions of Norfolk Island; that on Friday the Chancellor of the Exchequer would move for a Select Committee to inquire into the Bank Act of 1844 and to the law relating to Joint-stock Banks; and that on Monday, the 9th inst., Sir George Grey would introduce a measure to amend the acts relating to Secondary Punishments, and to establish Reformatory Schools in England.

SIR STAFFORD NORTHCOTE gave notice of a motion on the subject of Education and Protection for Vagrant Children.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL for IRELAND gave notice that on an early day he would move for the expulsion of Mr. James Sadleir from the House.

MR. PELLATT gave notice for Friday, the 13th, and Major REED, for Tuesday next, of resolutions, almost identically similar, condemnatory of the Income-tax.

MR. ROEBUCK gave notice that on an early day he would move for a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of Secondary Punishments.

MR. W. WILLIAMS gave notice that on an early day he would move for a Select Committee on Naval Promotions.

SIR JOHN PAKINGTON gave notice that on the 17th he would bring in a bill to provide the means of Popular Education.

THE ADDRESS.

The SPEAKER then read the Queen's Speech, after which the Address was moved by Sir J. RAMSDEN, who reviewed the principal topics touched upon in the Speech of the Royal Commissioners, noticing the omission of any reference to our convict and criminal population, and expressing a hope that the House would be speedily called upon to record its opinion respecting a state of things which, he said, was as disgraceful to the Legislature as it was grievous to the community.

The motion was seconded by Sir A. AGNEW.

MR. DISRAELI, after a passing allusion to the omissions in the Royal Speech, described the condition of the Great Powers at the termination of the late struggles affording a fair prospect of permanent tranquillity for this country; and he wanted to know, he said, why we were disappointed of this expectation—why wars and rumours of wars should pervade the whole Speech? He proceeded to argue that the seeds of difficulties in our diplomatic relations were sown immediately after the Treaty of Peace; first, with reference to Italy, our intermeddling with the affairs of which country had, he observed, for six months diverted the mind of England from the consideration of its domestic interests. Let the House observe that this agitation respecting the Italian difficulty, as it was called, commenced in the spring; during the whole of that spring, and a considerable portion of the summer, the agitation on this exciting topic continued. It became a matter of question whether it might not immediately break out upon a great scale, and the old battlefield of Europe, and men began to speculate whether the Austrian army, which had not been engaged in the Russian war, would be more than a match for the French army, which had galled laurels, but at the cost of great exhaustion in that war. For six months the mind of England was distracted and diverted from the consideration of its domestic interests, and no step was taken to reduce the large establishments which the war had called into existence. No measure of administration or economical reform could be listened to, when it was believed that on the morrow we might wake and find all Europe in a flame, and Austria and France engaged in actual hostilities, and that fatal rivalry which had entailed on Europe so many campaigns of blood, and so many useless treaties, revived. The House would remember how slow her Majesty's Ministers were to carry the promise they made to interfere in the affairs of Italy into execution. They were led to expect that the King of Naples was to be coerced into measures of great concession. Every day they expected to hear that the English fleet was in the Bay of Naples, and that a French army had occupied the centre of Italy; but would it be believed that all this time—at the very moment when Lord Clarendon was listening to the passionate representations of Count Cavour, in which he condemned the existence of Austrian rule in Italy—at that time, when Lord Clarendon felt that he was unable to extricate himself from some fatal engagement he might have made to Sardinia when the treaty was signed, commenced those protocols which had created so much excitement, and from which so much was expected, and which had wasted six months of the intelligence of the country by distracting it from its own proper business—would it be believed that at that time a secret treaty was in existence guaranteeing to Austria the whole of her Italian dominions? (Hear, hear.) He did not mention this in the way of cavil to Austrian diplomacy; on the contrary, he admired the admirable adroitness, he would almost say the successful wisdom, with which Austria had managed, throughout the whole of the late struggle, to conduct her affairs, and by which she had obtained all the fruits of victory without entering into a campaign. But that was not sufficient, and Austria obtained that which at no period of her history her brightest statesmen ever supposed she would ever get—a guarantee.

LORD PALMERSTON: From what Power?

MR. DISRAELI: From what Power? Why, from the only Power Austria ever feared—a guarantee from France for the possession of her Italian dominions—(Hear, hear)—and granted not merely with the sanction and approval of the noble Lord (Lord Clarendon), but by the advice and at the special instance of his Government (Cheers.) That secret treaty he found was not denied, though mentioned now for the first time. What Power? said the noble Lord. Why, it was not the power of England that crossed the Alps—the Power that crossed the Alps and held Austria in check was that Power which, according to the noble Lord, and according to the representations of the noble Lord's Minister, who was his partner in this notable plan for the emancipation of Italy—was the Power that was to effect all these great objects, and gain the confidence of the Liberal party of Europe—those objects to gain which they had pardoned the noble Lord for not obtaining all those liberal results they so cordially desired (Hear, hear). This was a circumstance which threw, he thought, some light on our present relations with Italy. Let them turn to the protocol in which Lord Clarendon referred to the measures which in his opinion ought to be pursued in regard to Italy—let them read that document now that he (Mr. Disraeli) had given them this key-note to the story; then only would they understand the apparent content with which Count Buol listened to the remarks of Lord Clarendon in reference to Italy, and the scoffing and contempt with which the other Austrian negotiator, Count Prokesch, listened to the English Minister's representations. Talk of trying to induce Austria to withdraw from the occupation of the Roman provinces! Why, the Austrian Minister, with the guarantee for all the Italian dominions of Austria in his pocket—what did he care for those representations which were brought forward with such pomp in the House of Commons, and made the basis and foundation of the confidence the noble Lord claimed from the Liberal party of Europe? (Hear, hear.) When the noble Lord the member for London brought forward his motion on the state of Italy, and particularly with regard to the continued occupation of Central Italy by Austria, and having had the answer of the noble Lord (Palmerston), he admitted it to be quite satisfactory—he would ask that noble Lord (J. Russell) did he consider it satisfactory now? (Hear.) He would ask any man whether a Minister was justified in holding out to Italy, to England, and to Europe, that he was sincerely and honestly determined to change the aspect of social and political life in Italy, and especially in the centre and the south of Italy, when he knew that he had already signed an instrument which had rendered the supremacy of Austria in Italy complete and universal? (Cheers.) Let him remind the House of what had happened by this cruel imposition which had been put on the credulity of the country, and by which so much precious time had been lost. What had been done for the benefit and advantage of Italy? He remembered making some observations—not against the improvement of Italy, which every one must desire (Hear, hear), but as warning the House against interfering in Italian politics, unless they first made up their minds to interfere actively and with effect (Cheers.) But they had not made up their minds to interfere actively; they had protocols and State papers, speeches in Parliament, motions made by a noble and distinguished Liberal Lord, and sympathy expressed by many Liberal members—and what had happened? Bootless assassinations, unsuccessful insurrections, the death of many excellent and brave men, the aggravation of every evil complained of, and the exaggeration of all the misgovernment which had been denounced. We threatened the King of Naples—the King of Naples treated us with contempt. The King of Naples was assured by his good friend Austria that so far from there being any danger of a French army crossing the Alps, except to guarantee the possession of her Italian dominions, and of an English fleet anchoring in the Bay of Naples, England and France were Austria's best friends, and had just given her the title-deeds to her Italian estates; therefore the King of Naples would be quite safe, in so far as bringing Austria into peril, in vindicating his honour as an independent Sovereign. Well, the King of Naples followed this advice, and how far the policy of the noble Lord had redounded to the credit of this country—how far it had benefited the Liberal party in Italy, or tended to the requirements of Italian society, he would leave the House to consider on

some future occasion, his present object being to show how much it was wasted—how much expense incurred by this Italian difficulty, that followed so immediately after the Turkish difficulty. Then came the Russian difficulty. What he asked, was the reason why we were on the point of losing one of the very objects for which we went to war? He contended that it was owing to a blunder of our own negotiator, who was a principal member of the Cabinet. Yet, instead of an avowal of the mistake, every means were used to excite the passions of the people of this country against Russia, as if she desired to recede from the treaty. All these difficulties in foreign affairs, which occupied nearly a year, were attributable, he argued, to Ministers, who, when the question about Belgrad and the Isle of Serpents was adjusted, had advised a course in the Neuchâtel dispute calculated, but for the prudence of the Swiss, to involve them in war and to embroil the Continent. The tranquillity of Europe was, however, so well established that even a firebrand Minister could not subvert it; but in another quarter of the globe we had, not rumours of wars, but actual war, and he thought it was the duty of that House to inquire what was the cause of these perpetually-recurring difficulties. Recollecting the case of the war in Afghanistan, he should, when the papers were before the House, scrutinise very closely the real causes of the war with Persia; and, with regard to the Chinese difficulty, he believed it was the consequence of instructions from home sent out some time ago. The House, he thought, would do well to curb and control the power of the Minister to pursue such a system as he had sketched, so dangerous to the interests of the country. Turning his attention to domestic topics, Mr. Disraeli adverted to finance, and especially to the Income-tax, pointing out some of the embarrassing questions which would arise if the settlement of 1853 were not adhered to, and the importance of coming to an early decision upon this source of supply. He intimated his intention, on that day fortnight, to ask the opinion of the House upon this subject by moving for a Committee of the whole House, with the view of proposing certain resolutions.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said it was unusual to state what Government meant to do with respect to the finances of the country until the Estimates should be placed upon the table; and he saw no reason why the ordinary course should be departed from, or why the financial year should not be allowed to expire; but he could assure the House that he would take the earliest opportunity of bringing forward his financial statement after some progress had been made in the Estimates. He hoped the House would come to no conclusion upon the subject of taxation until it should have before it the amount of the national expenditure.

After a short pause, followed by cries of "Question," the Speaker commenced reading the Address, but was interrupted by

Mr. GLADSTONE, who said he had hoped to have an answer would have been offered by the Government to the very comprehensive speech of Mr. Disraeli. It seemed to be disrespectful to the House for the Government to keep silence. Mr. Disraeli's assertion relative to the secret treaty with Austria, and the state of the Swiss question, ought to have had an answer. It was singular enough, as Mr. Disraeli had remarked, that the noble Lord's policy should prove so fertile in war and disturbance amongst other Powers. Like Mr. Disraeli, he would suspend his judgment on the subject of Naples till the papers were produced. He regretted that no expression had been inserted in the Speech of the occurrences in China; and, with respect to Persia, he had seen nothing which could justify the war which was now going on. It was called—why he could not tell—an Indian war. Information should be given as to the authority upon which it was waged; and they should also know the quarter from which the expenditure was to be defrayed. He begged to ask whether that expenditure was to be saddled upon the people of England? In reference to the Income-tax, he must say that the feeling of the country appeared to be stronger against taxation than against the expenditure which led to it, and yet it was to the latter that public attention should be mainly directed. He referred to the speech of Lord Palmerston at Arbroath, as justifying him in estimating the expenditure of the Army at about £15,000,000 for this year, and if he added to this some £9,000,000 for the Navy, they would have an expenditure of £24,000,000 for the peace establishment of this country. He warned the House that if they voted these Estimates for this year they would have to do so in future. It would be our future peace establishment, although our peace establishment in former years seldom exceeded £15,000,000 or £16,000,000. If the House should sanction such a scale of expenditure it must be prepared for the consequences. Still he must himself say that he would do all in his power to carry out the arrangement of 1853, to which he considered the Government of that day pledged, and would support any motion which might be made by Mr. Disraeli having the accomplishment of that pledge for its object.

LORD PALMERSTON: I can assure my right hon. friend who has just sat down that if I did not rise after the right hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Disraeli), it was in no degree from want of respect, either to the right hon. gentleman or to the House. It was more, if I may say so, out of respect to my right hon. friend (Mr. Gladstone); because, anticipating that he would state to the House those reflections and observations which might occur to him upon the matters in debate, I thought it more respectful to him, and also to the House, to wait and hear what he might say, in order that, when I rose, I might be able to make any remarks which might occur to me with reference to what had fallen from him (Hear, hear). The speech of the right hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Disraeli) appeared to me to be an instance of the error into which men of eminent talents who distinguish themselves in different lines are sometimes tempted to fall by indulging on some occasions in a display of those talents which have obtained for them eminence in another capacity. The right honourable gentleman stands prominent in this House for his statesmanlike qualities, his powers of debate, his eloquence, and his ability. He has also acquired a great reputation as a man of genius in another department of intellect—as a great master of the powers of imagination (A laugh). I will not accuse the right hon. gentleman of having been indebted to his imagination for his facts and to his memory for his arguments—a reproach applied in another Parliament to a distinguished orator; but I must say that the greater part of the speech which we have heard from him with reference to our foreign policy was a pure and entire romance ("Hear, hear," and a laugh). The right hon. gentleman has been spending part of the vacation in Paris. We know that in that great capital are many men who amuse themselves by prying upon the credulity of persons whom they call *gobemouchees*, or fly-catchers (Renewed laughter). Well, Sir, what a godsend it was to them to have in their hands, not a common traveller, not a man of ordinary capacity, but the leader of Opposition in the English House of Commons—a man distinguished for his ability to express any opinions which might be instilled into his mind, and capable of disseminating to the greatest advantage any tales, however unfounded, which they might store up in his memory for the purpose of having them communicated to the world (Much laughter). Lord Palmerston, in reply to the strictures of Mr. Disraeli, gave an explanation of some circumstances connected with the geographical "difficulty" which had to be adjusted, and explained the real state of the Swiss question in opposition to Mr. Disraeli's romance. It was an entire romance, also, to speak of the existence of a secret treaty by France guaranteeing to Austria the retention of her Italian territories. He (Lord Palmerston) never heard of such a treaty till he heard of it that evening from Mr. Disraeli; and assuredly, had the opinion of the British Government been asked, it would have been the very reverse of that asserted by Mr. Disraeli. His Lordship defended the course adopted in the case of Naples, and, in answer to Mr. Gladstone, at once admitted that the proceedings against Persia had been adopted upon the responsibility of the English Government. I should have thought, said the noble Lord, that my right hon. friend was sufficiently acquainted with the arrangements sanctioned by law for the government of India to have known that orders of the kind coming from home never go through the Court of Directors, but always pass through the Secret Committee, which is the body appointed by the law to conduct business of that sort. No doubt the operations were undertaken upon the responsibility of her Majesty's Government at home, and we do not now shrink from that responsibility. We did consider the circumstances of the case justified and called for some such proceeding, and it was in consequence of orders from the Government at home that operations were commenced. Then, as to its being the consequence of a predetermined system, no doubt it is so; but gentlemen opposite are parties to the adoption of that system. Does the right hon. gentleman consider that his party never adopted measures or acted upon the belief that the safety of Herat was not indifferent to this country—that it was of no importance whether Persia possessed that city or not? Why, when the right hon. gentleman held office under Lord Derby, the Persian Government being believed to entertain an intention to annex the city and territory of Herat, the Persian Minister of the day was asked whether such was the case, and he assured Lord Malmesbury it was not so; but that statement being followed soon after by the intelligence of an edict from Teheran, proclaiming the annexation to Persia of the territory and city of Herat, notice was immediately sent to the Persian Ambassador that our relations with him had ceased, and would not be renewed unless the annexation of Herat was withdrawn. The Persian Government at last yielded; but the course of the transactions showed that the Government of which the right hon. gentleman was a member—like all other Governments who hold the honour of their country as their first object—felt that the safety of our Indian possessions was involved in the annexation of Herat to the Persian empire. In this respect we have followed the settled and long-established policy of this country, founded, as I believe, upon a right conception of the importance of Herat with regard to the frontier of our Indian dominions (Hear, hear). It was our intention to lay before the House papers relating to this Persian affair; but within the last few days we have been informed that the Persian Ambassador who has recently arrived in Paris had solicited an interview with Lord Cowley, our Minister in that city, and the result of that interview, which lasted some hours, was that Ferouk Khan, having been made acquainted with our demand, expressed himself desirous to enter upon negotiations for the settlement of the differences which now exist (Hear, hear). That offer has been accepted, and the matter may be considered as under negotiation, and therefore I think it is not fitting to lay papers before Parliament which might add to the difficulties of conducting this question to what we hope will be a satisfactory settlement (Hear, hear). Now, as to China, the right hon. gentleman said that what had occurred at Canton

was also the result of a predetermined system. Well, Sir, it was so, and, again, who were the authors of that system? The late occurrences have been the result of a violation of the Treaty of Nankin, and under what Government was that treaty made? Why, Sir, under the Government of the late Sir R. Peel. That treaty accorded some privileges to our ships, some immunities to our subjects. That treaty has been violated; those immunities have been broken through; and the officer in command on the spot, rightly in my opinion, thought he was entitled to demand satisfaction, which being refused completely and most insolently, recourse was had, step by step, to severe measures, in order to induce the Chinese Commissioner to grant that satisfaction which we had a right to demand. Not only had the British Government demands to make, but I believe that the Government of France also had some demands; and we have seen that the barbarous spirit which characterises the Chinese Commissioner at Canton has manifested itself by an outrage upon the flag of the United States, which compelled the naval force of that Power to have recourse to severe measures to obtain reparation. I cannot help hoping, however, that in this case, too, the dispute may be settled in a manner becoming the relations of the two Governments, who cannot but wish to be upon friendly terms with each other. The right hon. gentleman thinks that Parliament should have been called together to announce, not the outrage at Canton, for we knew nothing of what occurred there until the public accounts arrived in this country, but on account of the intended operations against Persia. I admit, upon every constitutional principle, that, if a war takes place with one of the great Powers of Europe or the United States of America, involving serious consequences, it is the duty of the Government to call Parliament together to state the grounds of the quarrel, and to ask for the means of carrying on the contest; but in the case of such a collision as that with Persia—a remote country—a Power a confidant with which is not likely to entail upon us any very considerable efforts, considering that in the natural order of things Parliament would speedily assemble, to have made that dispute the reason for especially calling it together would really be a very burlesque upon constitutional practice ("Hear, hear," and a laugh). So much, then, for the right hon. gentleman's remarks upon our foreign policy. He says, moreover, that I have a peculiar talent for creating difficulties and then getting out of them. Well, at least one of those qualities may be set off against the other ("Hear, hear," and laughter). If I have a faculty for creating difficulties, and, on the other hand, a happy knack of getting rid of them. I think those who do me the honour to follow me cannot have much to complain of the results (Laughter). But if I were to consult some hon. members opposite they might possibly tell me of some gentleman who has a talent for getting his followers into difficulties, but has not the knack of getting them out again (Loud laughter). I think the experience of former Sessions must enable even those whose memories are not the most retentive to furnish some examples ("Hear, hear," and a laugh). When the right hon. gentleman says we create these difficulties, that is a very pretty figure of speech; but does he mean to say that the Government of England has such command over the Governments of other countries as at will to be able to summon up difficulties, to get them to do something outrageous or in violation of treaty, and then to require reparation, upon a previous understanding that after a certain amount of discussion on both sides they are to give in, and all is to be passed over as though nothing had occurred? Such would be the play of children, but such is not the way in which public or international affairs are carried on. We are not benefited by difficulties, and if things are done which it is necessary for the honour of the country we should resist, and such resistance creates difficulties, we ought not to hold back, and, as the right hon. gentleman admits we have a knack of getting through difficulties, I think the latter part of his description entitles us to the commendation of the House, especially as the former part applies to other Powers, and not to us (Hear, hear). I think that every Government ought to maintain the interests and honour of the country (Hear, hear); and if the Government do that successfully, and if by negotiation they continue to smoothe difficulties and put an end to questions which threatened at one time to disturb the peace, instead of exposing themselves to criticism and animadversion, I think they entitle themselves to approbation and support (Cheers). But the right hon. gentleman the member for the University says that such is the reckless character of the Government of which I have the honour to be the head that we create ten times as many difficulties as any other Government would create. I will not discuss arithmetic with my right hon. friend (A laugh), who is a great master of all those arts (Laughter). But, supposing that in point of numbers we had more difficulties than any other Government, does my right hon. friend forget the greatest difficulty in which this country has been engaged since the year 1815? (Hear, hear). Does he forget that the most arduous and important war in which England has been involved since that year was brought on by the Government of which he was a member (Cheers); that it took place at the time he was in office; that he had the purse-strings in his hand; and that he, therefore, had greater power and authority than almost any other member of the Government to put his veto on proceedings which he thought wrong (Hear)? My right hon. friend acted an honourable part then, whatever he may say now that he is out of office. As every public-spirited individual would do when responsibility rested on him, my right hon. friend cast aside all those refinements in which he is now apt to indulge (Hear, hear). He saw that the honour of the country was involved, and, although the contest in which they were about to embark was one in regard to which no man could foretell its duration or extent, he flung in his stake with his colleagues. I say, then, my right hon. friend, having acted that manly part when in office, is not entitled to reproach us for having resisted minor difficulties which have fallen in our way, and which have not been the result of our own conduct (Cheers). I agree with the general principles which have been laid down with regard to the public expenditure. I quite concur in the principle that Parliament ought first to decide upon what amount of establishments the interest and safety of the country require; and, having settled that, then to find the means by which the expense of such establishments, whether large or small, may be defrayed. Therefore I think the discussions which have been announced as to the levying of a particular tax are premature until the House of Commons shall have decided what ought to be the expenditure of the country; and I must say this is the first time I remember to have heard elaborate discussions of Estimates which have not yet been laid upon the table of the House (Hear, hear). My right hon. friend says, "Figures, after all, are what you should go by." But wait until you get the figures, for, if the figures are only imagined upon which you base your argument, you are very likely to find yourself in error (Hear, hear). We all agree with the right hon. gentleman that it is not for this country to have an army of 500,000 men. I do not think any one dreamt of any such thing (Hear, hear). It was a mere figure of speech. He meant that we ought not to have a large army, like those on the Continent—an army disproportioned to the wants of the country. I quite agree with the right hon. gentleman (Hear, hear). I think that it would be a great mistake in any Government which proposed, and in any House of Commons which agreed to, an inordinate amount of military establishments beyond the requirements of the country. But the House must recollect that our army cannot be considered in the light of a mere police force at home; that we have possessions abroad in which certain garrisons must be maintained; and although my right hon. friend says very truly that the Colonies to which free institutions are given ought to contribute largely to their own expenses, yet it must be borne in mind that in these countries, which are thinly peopled, where labour is dear, and where every man is occupied in some industrial pursuit, you cannot get recruits with the same facility as in a settled country; and although you may call on these Colonies to contribute largely to their civil establishments, and to form militias, for their defence, yet forces of that kind will not be sufficient if you have not the nucleus of regular forces on which these volunteer corps may support themselves in the hour of need (Hear, hear). Then you must remember that you have a certain number of possessions abroad which require a certain amount of military force; that that military force cannot be kept permanently; that there must be troops at home periodically to relieve them; and therefore that, besides troops on foreign stations, there must be always a certain number on the passage out to relieve, or on their passage home, having been relieved. All this must be taken into account in fixing the amount of your military establishments; and you must also bear in mind that peace, however long it may continue, is not merely dependent on ourselves, but on the conduct of other Powers; and you must look forward to having a force sufficient at least to protect you in the outset from insult or attack. Depend upon it for a country great and rich to leave itself without the means of defence is not a method to preserve peace in the long run (Cheers). That is why it is important to utilize the experience which we have gained in the last war, to maintain the scientific establishments, and to keep up those portions of the army which cannot be so easily raised as the recruits who perform the ordinary operations of a campaign (Hear, hear). In the same way, with regard to the navy, it was stated, I think, by the right hon. gentleman that great expense had been incurred of late years by this country and he might have said by other countries by France and Russia in adapting their naval forces to the modern improvements of science, substituting propulsion by the screw for simple dependence on the power of sails. But such adaptation is expensive. The cost of construction of a line-of-battle ship moved by steam is one-third greater than that of the same ship without that power, and the expense of maintaining it is one-third greater. But if other countries—France, Russia, and the United States—all adopt the system of steam propulsion, it will be impossible for this country to remain behind the progress of the age, and have a navy not capable by its efficiency to cope with a navy with which it might come into conflict (Cheers). I say, then, I trust the House will suspend its judgment on these matters of estimates and finance until they have before them the elements upon which their judgment may be formed. We have no interest in proposing to the House establishments greater than we really think necessary for the public service. We can have no desire to create difficulties for our own administration. There is every temptation to a Government to introduce proposals most likely to be adopted by the House; but, on the other hand, it is the duty of a responsible Government, having determined the amount of army and navy which is essential for the safety and interest of the

country, to present to Parliament the result of the conclusions at which they have arrived (Hear, hear). I think I have now not omitted any topic of importance. I regret to see that the right hon. gentleman opposite has adopted so hastily those points to which I have alluded, which he picked up in Paris from the gossips of the town; and which, with a little inquiry from those who would give him information, he might have satisfied himself were unfounded. He would not then have indulged in charges against the Government at variance with the facts of the case, and unfounded in reality (Cheers).

Mr. BAILLIE and Lord J. Russell rose together. There was a cry for the latter, but the hon. gentleman refused to give way, and proceeded to say that he should not have risen but for the observation of the noble Lord (Palmerston) that it would have been a burlesque to call Parliament together to announce the expedition to the Persian Gulf. But the fact was that the order for that expedition was made while Parliament was sitting, without any communication being made to Parliament; and thus the noble Lord had involved the country in war, and had undertaken a great military expedition, without condescending to consult or communicate with Parliament on the subject. He trusted that sufficient spirit remained in the House to vindicate its authority, and to question the right of any Minister to make war at his own will and pleasure, and without the interference of Parliament (Hear, hear).

Lord J. Russell thought the speech of Lord Palmerston was satisfactory, even upon points which before were somewhat doubtful. He was glad to hear that the affairs of Neuchâtel were likely to be settled. As to the war with Persia, he confessed he looked upon it with alarm, as he believed it would be a war, not with Persia alone, but with Persia supported by Russia. He could not conceive the wisdom of exchanging our present defensible Indian frontier for one open at all points, in the centre of Persia. At the same time he agreed that Herat should not be annexed to Persia. He must add that he thought Ministers ought to have called Parliament together before they sent the expedition to Bushire. With respect to Naples he thought the Government had made matters worse than ever by the mode of their interference. They had brought it forward with emphasis, and then abandoned it with levity. He believed the Government of Naples was bad; but in Rome, he must remind the House, the Government was equally bad, and it was supported by the occupation of foreign troops. He could not but believe that, if we remonstrated with France and Austria, this foreign occupation would be given up. After some further remarks on the subject of Italy, in which he anticipated a brilliant future for that country, he urged upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer the propriety of making his financial statement at the earliest moment possible.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON condemned the foreign policy of the Government, and complained that there was no promise in the Speech of domestic reforms.

Mr. HADFIELD called the attention of the Government to the necessity of securing a supply of cotton from India.

Mr. V. SMITH said the subject was under the consideration of the Government.

The Address was then agreed to, and the House adjourned.

THE "RESOLUTE."

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Brook ya Heights, New York Harbour, Jan. 12th, 1857.

YOUR paper of the 27th December is before me. Here, just fifteen days from its publication, surrounded by my family, the curtains drawn, the fires blazing in the grates, the ground covered with its snowy mantle, and the stars glittering brightly in the cold blue firmament without, I am perusing your description of the Queen's visit to the *Resolute*. I cannot refrain from throwing down the paper, to express to you the delight we feel at the reception of our slight token of good feeling towards England. Generous old England! Ready with back to the wall to fight to the last gasp, on principle, she melts at the first proffer of kindness. Believe me, the heart of the two nations is the same; or rather, with slight distinctions, the two nations are one.

Our laws, literature, religion, even our prejudices, are almost identical, and nothing but insanity can estrange us. Victoria! God bless her! The pictures drawn from time to time of her domestic virtues, her "home," her husband, and her children, have not been lost on the American heart; and I candidly believe that if, by any possibility (I admit a possibility hardly imaginable), banished from her home, she should throw herself on American protection, that not "ten thousand swords" alone "would leap from their scabbards," but that, with enthusiastic cheers, the nation would receive her to its bosom, and defend her and her children against the world in arms.

A. E. S.

ROUTINE AND THE "RESOLUTE."

"The *Resolute*, Arctic vessel, by order of the Lords of the Admiralty, has been stripped of all her fittings, and laid up in ordinary."—*Naval Intelligence*.

CAN it be possible? Is dull Routine
Really so stupid—such a mere machine?
So utterly divorced from common sense—
So sedulously schemed to give offence?
And shall America's most courteous boon
Officially be flung aside so soon;
Nor rather kept for ever and a day,
With all the love and honour we can pay?

Hear this, two Hemispheres, both Old and New!
Hear it, Americans and Britons, too!
The noble ship, sent forth the lost to save,
But left a flotsam to the wind and wave.
Rescued, redeem'd, repair'd, was given, thus,
With all a brother's generous love to us.
We—in our Queen's and People's heart—uplift
Our thanks, to bless the giver and his gift;
We—in our rulers and their proud routine,
Scorning the people and the people's Queen—
Command, "by order of my Lords," to strip
Forthwith to a sheer hulk this sacred ship!
Its glories, honours, interest—all despised;
All England's sense of kindness compromised,
And all America's great heart ignored,
Because so wills—some Admiralty Lord!

You stolid rulers! In the times of old
A satirist imagined he was bold
In smartly saying, "With how little wit
The world is govern'd. God be good to it!"
But you make dull that dictum of the sage,
By being far more stupid, in this age,
Than he could fancy; for you govern now
By simple force of folly—God knows how!

America! while yet a Briton's cheek
Is hot with indignation, hear us speak:
England, misjudged so oft as ruled amiss
And plagued perpetually by shames like this,
Now doth resolve to wipe this wrong away,
Nor thus with scorn your kindness repay.
We will rescind that "order of my Lords,"
And make their Lordships eat their Lordships' words;
Commanding, that they forthwith have reship't
All that your kindness gave, their folly strip't;
Commanding further, that, as all was seen
In perfect order by the people's Queen,
So everything their diligence restore
For us, the people, as it stood before:
Commanding lastly, that, for honour's sake,
To save the nation from a great mistake,
They moor the *Resolute*, with all her gear,
In Portsmouth harbour or at Greenwich pier:
A home for Arctic heroes timely made,
A charitable show for orphan's aid;
A proof how well Columbia did her part,
And how Routine abused our English heart!

MARTIN F. TUPPER.

MR. CLIFFORD'S INVENTION.—In consequence of instructions from the Lords of the Admiralty, Mr. Clifford, the patentee, exhibited on Saturday last, at Devonport, his invention for speedily lowering boats. A skiff fitted with his apparatus was suspended from the davits of the *Zepphr*, 3, which steamed several times into Hamoaze, and, on returning under full power, dropped the boat in front of the dockyard in the presence of Port Admiral Sir William Parker, Admiral Superintendent of the Navy, Mr. Mills, Capt. Wise, flagship *Innreignable*, Captain Jerningham, Cambridge; Captain Hay, *Indus*; Mr. Thompson, Queen's Harbour-master, and others. The trials, which were entirely under the control of the naval authorities, appeared to give great satisfaction, and it is understood that the *Indus*, 78, now fitting at Devonport for the West India station, is to be supplied with Mr. Clifford's invention.

LITERATURE.

THE TRUE THEORY OF REPRESENTATION IN A STATE. By GEORGE HARRIS, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law. Longman and Co. This is a very thoughtful publication. Its views are original and comprehensive. Boldly deviating from the beaten track, the author proposes the reconstruction of Parliament rather than its reform. *Stare super antiquas vias* forms no part of his political creed. With a vigorous hand he tears up the remaining roots of feudal institutions, preferring principles to precedents. Those who are not inclined to adopt all his details will hardly dissent from the fundamentals of his argument—of course excepting those who doggedly resist progress in every form.

The basis of the new system is that "the leading interests of the nation should be represented, not the mere predominance of numbers." Assuming that the House of Lords is coeval with the Norman Conquest, and that the House of Commons was called into existence by Simon de Montfort, Earl of Leicester, in the reign of Henry III., it is plain that the existing relation of classes and interests is widely different from what it was at those remote periods. Parliament is designed to represent all sections of society, property in all its ramifications, opinion in all its phases. Within its walls the voice of our colonies should be heard; labour is entitled to send its delegates to the national assembly; nor should art, literature, and science be excluded. By such a combination, material wealth, industry, and the intellectual, moral, and social condition of the community would be represented, each in its due proportion, and the whole would be harmoniously blended together, and none acquire an unfair preponderance. This at least is the object to be attained; the difficulty is to classify and adjust those coexisting, and occasionally conflicting, interests. Mr. Harris enumerates them in the following order:—1, Virtue; 2, Intelligence; 3, Order; 4, Property; 5, The Professional Interest; 6, The Popular Interest. According to our author, though each member ought to be influenced by Virtue, that element in morals is specifically represented in the Episcopal Bench in the House of Lords, and he quotes a sentiment from Lord Eldon justifying the presence of Bishops in that assembly, "not to make the Church political, but the State religious." To this part of the scheme the Dissenters will object, unless their several denominations contribute their quota of Virtue to hereditary legislation. Mr. Harris complains of the comparatively recent decision which limited the number of spiritual Peers, when the number of Bishops was increased, and seeks to justify his complaint by remarking that, "at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII., the spiritual Lords consisted of twenty-six mitred Abbots and Priors, besides the Archbishops and Bishops, and together outnumbered the temporal nobility." But here he seems to forget his fundamental principle of "interests, not numbers;" and interests are greatly changed since the reign of Henry VIII. Besides, originally, the spiritual Peers did not sit as representatives of Virtue, but "per baroniam;" hence, when the Conqueror commanded the seizure of his uterine brother Odo, he said, "I seize not the Bishop of Bayeux; I seize my vassal, the Earl of Kent."

Special provision is at present very scantily made for the representation of Intelligence in the House of Commons. The Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Dublin, among all the learned bodies of the United Kingdom, alone are privileged to return members to Parliament; and, collectively, they only return six. Mr. Harris, in the list printed at page 61, would confer 83 members on Intelligence. He justly complains (p. 30) that "no intellectual test whatever, even of the lowest kind, has ever been required by law either of the voter or member of Parliament;" but when he adds "nor has its desirableness been contended for by any of the enlightened advocates of reform," he is in error, for we could mention many who have insisted on an educational test.

The interests of Order are represented in Parliament by all whose welfare depends on the continuance of regular government and the righteous administration of justice; and the large presence of lawyers is a firm guarantee against the principles of the Constitution being invaded. The representatives proposed to be given to the learned bodies would, of course, strengthen order by their intelligence. Of the interests of Property little need here be said, for property unduly predominates in Parliament, and its exclusive influence ought not to be strengthened in any new scheme, but counteracted and balanced. The Property qualification Mr. Harris would retain, but would reduce its amount. At page 69 he fixes on £1000 in land for a county member, and £1000 in personal property for a city or borough member. We do not perceive what he considers to be the amount of property for a member representing the learned bodies, but he would clearly exact some, for he says, at page 68:—"As regards the qualification required of members of Parliament, this ought to consist in all cases of a certain amount of property, so as to give the representative an actual stake in the country." The Professional Interest, as distinguished from the Property Interest, is treated by Mr. Harris as "forming a distinct and independent one of itself," and, therefore, seems to demand a separate representation in the national assembly. If we rightly comprehend the enumeration of the new constituencies, as classified at page 61, we find it difficult to separate the learned bodies from the professional bodies by a sufficiently distinctive line of demarcation. We have already, stopping at the "English Royal Academy," given eighty-three members to the learned bodies; but we were aware, when doing so, that some classes so included might be arranged under the head of professional bodies, as attorneys and solicitors, physicians and surgeons, and others. We merely hint at this possible confusion, in the hope that Mr. Harris may make the line more palpable in a second edition. In the department of Trades there are only four Chambers of Commerce mentioned as entitled to have representatives, but there are many more of those associations. London is named, but it has not a Chamber of Commerce; Manchester, which has one, is unnoticed.

The Popular Interest is next considered. It consists of all not included in the other five classes, which looks very much like manhood suffrage, but the term is not used. "I am not for depriving the mob of all power, but I am resolute for detaching him." I trust that he may be allowed to exercise his fair sway, but I will never consent to exalt him into a despot. This is somewhat vague. However, the whole plan appears to us one of checks and balances to prevent the predominance of any interest; but at p. 59 Mr. Harris comes directly to the point as to those who should vote for members who are to represent the Popular Interest:—"All those men of the age of twenty-one who can read and write, who are gaining an independent livelihood by some occupation (other than as principals, who are included in class 5), whether as workmen or labourers, and who, though not comprehended in any of the other classes, are of sufficient intelligence and independence to be intrusted with the free exercise of such a privilege; all which persons, although they may not be rated as householders (or otherwise), should each be entitled to a vote."

All others are to be excluded, so that manhood suffrage is reduced to educational suffrage, the very plan proposed by Mr. Archibald Prentice, of Manchester, some fourteen years since. But it may be asked, who shall decide whether persons claiming to vote have or have not "sufficient intelligence and independence to be intrusted with the free exercise of such a privilege?"

It is proposed to reduce the numbers of the House of Commons to 600 representatives, by disfranchising a number of the smaller boroughs which represent no particular interest; allowing 300 to England, 150 to Scotland, and 100 to Ireland. The learned, professional, and commercial corporate bodies are allotted 150 members among them; the property voters, 150; the professional voters, 150; the personal voters, 150.

Some other recommendations are made of a minor, but still of a very debatable character. Mr. Harris would give *ex officio* seats in the House of Commons to all members of the Government whose presence was there required for the real service of the nation, but not the faculty of voting; and probably many may think that this restriction would more than counterbalance the privilege. It is proposed to introduce life members into the House of Peers; to adopt certain measures for the prevention of bribery, not having resort to the ballot; to fix the duration of Parliament at five years, and not necessarily to dissolve it on the demise of the Sovereign. Mr. Harris has a very low opinion of "appealing to the sense of the nation" in times of political excitement, when such appeals usually are made, and he appears to think it desirable that a portion of the members of the House of Commons should resign their functions by rotation

Into all these collateral subjects the writer enters fully; but our limited space does not permit us to follow him in his various arguments, all of which are ingenious, well sustained, and perfectly free from party spirit. Indeed, the frank, truth-seeking, and dispassionate tone of the whole book renders its perusal a real pleasure, independently of its learning, logic, and earnestness. We hope it may circulate widely, for it must do good, holding the balance with an even hand between those who are called obstructives and those who are called destructives.

PARLIAMENTARY PRECEDENTS, &c. By the Hon. ROBERT BOURKE, Barrister-at-Law. Henry Sweet.

This volume contains the decisions of the present Speaker of the House of Commons on points of order, rules of debate, and the general practice of the House. Such a collection must be highly useful to every member of Parliament, as it really forms a code of Parliamentary etiquette. To the main work is added an appendix of the forms of procedure in the House of Commons relating to public business, which is extremely interesting to all classes of politicians. The book does not admit of literary criticism, being strictly a record of law and usage; but we may observe that the information it contains is classified with judgment, and a table of references enables the student immediately to seize the points of which he is in search. The method of opening a new Parliament, and of electing a Speaker; the forms for adjourning the House, for the attendance and places of members; the orders of the day and notices of motions and amendments; the rules of debate; the divisions; the committees of the whole House and the select committees;—all these, and other matters of a similar character, are lucidly explained in a small compass.

CRYSTAL PALACE PHOTOGRAPHIC GALLERY.

A KNOWLEDGE of what photography is accomplishing on the Continent is indispensable in order to determine with precision the relative position occupied by our own school. Hence a portion of the interest which attaches to the Crystal Palace Gallery. Independently of this, however, an examination of this exhibition will prove interesting from the success that has been attained in the three chief functions of photography—a more absolutely perfect representation of human expression than can be attained by the graver; the pleasing reproduction of architectural details; and, thirdly, the cheap, easy, and faithful rendering of the original drawings and etchings of the great masters, so as to extend this enjoyment, which has hitherto been confined only to the most opulent class.

In this last function of photography the collection of the Crystal Palace is peculiarly rich and valuable; and we particularly note the reproduction of the prints of Marco Antonio Raimondi, the celebrated Bolognese engraver, the pupil of Francia, and the friend and contemporary engraver of the works of Raphael, whose portrait this great artist introduced in his "Heliodorus driven from the Temple." The engravings were not only done for the most part after Raphael's designs, but executed under his own direction. It is not easy to overrate the interest attaching to the absolutely faithful reproduction of works of this description, which, although immeasurably surpassed in finish by those of this century and the last, have yet qualities of expression characteristic of that great age, such, for instance, as "Saints Catherine and Lucia," and "La Vierge à la longue cuisse," modelled after some fine tall Roman girl. In conclusion, M. Benjamin Delessert has made very clever reproductions of works which ally the genius of Raphael in drawing and the talent of Marco Antonio in a most interesting manner to the chemical science of the nineteenth century.

Few works suggest themselves more readily as fitter for photography than Rembrandt's etchings. We have here the Dutchman in all his coarseness of taste and vulgarity of drawing, combined with his truly masterly treatment of light and shade. The works are too numerous to be particularised. One of the best is the "Descent from the Cross," by Gile and Baudry.

Of the vast superiority of photography over the very best engraving in the nicest delicacy of expression we have here unmistakable proofs. Take, for instance, Gustave Legray's "Jocunde," after Leonardo da Vinci, in the Louvre. Setting aside the perfect seizure of the gradations of tint of this picture, we hold it all but impossible for any engraver, however master of his art, to give the sardonic latent smile of this slyly beautiful countenance. The relation of lines and masses in an expression of this sort is something of so infinitely subtle and evanescent a character as to be utterly beyond the genius of any engraver. Take, for instance, another of Gustave Legray's photographs—Raphael's portrait of himself. What engraving could possibly give the strong individuality, refined modesty, and natural aristocracy of this countenance?

Legray takes very nearly the highest place as a manipulator—witness his "Brig by Moonlight" in every shop window. As a selector of subject, whether as regards category, point of view, or relations of light and mass, he has no superior. Nor is he confined to one class of subjects. We have already spoken of his expressive figures. In architecture he is equally happy. We would point out his "Gate of St. Pernin, at Toulouse"—a curious specimen of early renaissance which, in the hands of this manipulator, solves the problem of extraordinary solar brilliancy without spotty harshness, graduating in all directions to the richest depth of impenetrable gloom; and, in the middle tints, playing deliciously in half revolutions of the most luxuriant tracery.

But in architecture we must certainly assign the palm to the "Pavillon Richelieu," by M. Baldus. It is of large and unusual size, and of incomparable manipulation without any apparent distortion. It has the advantage of being in itself an architectural design of a distinct portion of this vast palace of Royal and Imperial France. The upper portion, more exposed to the light, is full of elegant detail, which attracts the attention; and, in the lower part, where the masses are simpler, the gradations and contrasts of light and shade are wonders of natural magic.

IRON PLATES FOR THE "GREAT EASTERN" MONSTER SHIP.

MR. S. BEALE, Deputy Chairman of the Midland Railway Company, and whose name has long been honourably connected with the industrial and mercantile pursuits of this country, is now supplying the builders of the monster ship with immense iron plates to be used in her construction. The plates have been expressly rolled for the bows of the *Great Eastern*, at Millwall, and vary in size from two tons to two tons and a half—the largest plate being 27 feet long by 4 feet 3 inches wide, and 1½ inch thick; the widest, 17 feet 10 inches long by 5 feet, and 1½ inch thick. The plates, which have been planed, are quite free from blisters and blemishes, the edges are perfect, and altogether they are an admirable specimen of what can be effected in these days of progress by enterprise, ingenuity, and skill. The difficulty in the manufacture of plates of these dimensions is in having to deal with such a large mass of iron in a welding heat, and to pass it under the rolls the requisite number of times. The process is this:—Between 3 and 4½ tons of iron are bound together and placed in a furnace expressly constructed for the purpose; and after the iron has been heated to a white heat it is withdrawn and carried to the rolls, and by admirable mechanical arrangement rolled into plates. The heat given off during this process from such an immense surface and mass of iron is so great as to prevent the workmen approaching within one or two yards of the plates without their clothes being set on fire or the skin burnt off their hands and faces. In the ordinary process of rolling iron, a plate weighing 9 cwt. is considered a very large one. The largest plate that had ever been rolled previous to those to which we allude was one exhibited at the Paris Exhibition, weighing 1 ton 6 cwt., and which elicited so many remarks. During the recent war Mr. Beale undertook to roll plates for the Government floating batteries, which operation he duly performed to their complete satisfaction; and a number of the sides of these modern engines of war were constructed at his works at Parkgate, Macclesbury.

THE most cordial understanding prevails at present between the Courts of Berlin and Paris. It is generally reported that in the course of the summer the Emperor of the French will pay a visit to King Frederick William at Sans Souci, where it is probable he will meet the Emperor of Russia.

At Paris and in the departments complaints have for some time past been made of the scarcity of smaller silver coin; and complaints have been made on the subject by the Chambers of Commerce of Rouen, Lille, and other places. In consequence the Mint of Paris is now coining, in addition to pieces of 2½, a large number of pieces of 2½, 1½, and 1c.

FINE ARTS.

THE LEGEND OF THE WANDERING JEW. Illustrated by GUSTAVE DORÉ. Addy and Co., Henrietta-street, Covent-garden.

This is a truly magnificent specimen of the art of design popularised by engravings on wood of the largest size and unsurpassed beauty of execution. The literary vehicle is the well-known legend of the "Wandering Jew," which, perhaps, more than any other, lends itself to association with picturesque varieties of character, scenery, costume, and architecture. The tale is supposed to begin with the day of the Crucifixion, when a Jew reviled our Saviour on his way to Calvary, and, in requital of a jeering "March on" addressed to Jesus, was himself adjudged to wander incessantly until the Day of Judgment. Thus, with the Nativity as a starting-point, and the "Crack of Doom" as a goal, the poet has fine scope in the interval for placing the Wandering Jew in whatever situations or localities fancy may suggest.

How the most popular legend took its origin, whether from an incident mentioned in some one of the hundreds of gospels unaccepted by the Church, whether brought from the East by the Crusaders, or invented in the dark ages, we know not. In the notice by the "Bibliophile Jacob," the fate of the Jew is said to symbolise that of the whole of this dispersed race. So far back as the year 1000 of the Christian era this personage was said to be talked of, but since 1228 the tradition is known with certainty to have been prevalent, and it is given as follows:—

The Jews dragged Jesus from the judgment-hall, and when he fell upon the threshold, Cartaphilus, who was the doorkeeper of the hall, insolently pushed him, striking him on the back with his fist, and saying to him with a mocking laugh, "Go faster, Jesus, go! why do you stop?" And Jesus, turning towards him with a stern glance, replied, "I go; but you shall tarry until I return." And, indeed, according to the Lord's word, Cartaphilus yet awaits the coming of Jesus Christ. He was about thirty years of age at the period of the Passion; and ever since, whenever he attains the age of a hundred years, he is seized with a strange infirmity, which seems incurable, and ends in a lethargy; after which he becomes as young again as at the moment of the Passion. However, after the death of Jesus Christ, Cartaphilus became a Christian, was baptised by the Apostle Avianus, and took the name of Joseph. At the present day this Joseph generally resides in the one or other Armenia, and in various countries of the East. He is a man of holy conversation and great piety, speaking little, and with great circumspection.

This personage was said to have been heard of in Hamburg in 1542, and near Madrid in 1675, and again in France in the seventeenth century. In 1609 a book was published in Bordeaux with the title—"Discours véritable d'un Juif Errant, lequel maintient avec paroles probables avoir esté présent à voir crucifier Jésus Christ, et est demeuré en vie." His last appearance was said to be at Brussels in 1772, as represented by thousands of woodcuts hawked through the villages of France and Germany at that time.

It is scarcely possible for us to give too high praise to the designs of M. Doré, and the admirable engraving of Messrs. Gauchard, Rouget, and Jolyer on large boxwood tablets. The first scene represents the march to Calvary with, we think, rather too much of the exaggeration of the woodcuts of the ancient German school as regards expression, although both designing and engraving show great talent.

The Jew in his journey passing a crucifix during a storm is magnificent: the distant sky and pelting storm, the drenched bottom of the valley, are given with magical truth and force; and the design with the architecture, the crucifix and the vegetation, is to our eye unexceptionable.

We cannot say so much for the Wandering Jew's appearance in Brussels. The architecture appears to us more German than Flemish—more of Nuremberg than of Brabant; and we are quite sure that there is an anachronism in the costume. The halberdiers of the age of Rubens and Tilly T'Serclaes, and the ailes de pigeon of a Prince Charles of Lorraine or the Prince de Ligne, were much more than a century apart; or, to bring the case more home, nobody during the American war wore the costume of our Civil Wars under Charles I. In the following plate of the beerhouse we have a mixture equally improper. The lad in front has the broad-brim and Flemish hose of Teniers. The figure in spectacles has the full-bottomed wig of the Regency, and the figure to the right is a subject of George III., or Louis XVI. No cleverness of expression and composition, or power of the graver, can palliate such glaring untruths. Even in carnival time the costume then was sometimes Roman, never Romantic.

In the scene of the ruined Rhine Castle, Doré redeems himself superbly. The water is not very successful; but the hanging woods and crumbling towers under a haze are full of delicacy.

The scene in the churchyard is wonderful, not only in fancy, but in execution. The shadow of the Jew by moonlight has the effect of nature; but a closer inspection shows an undercurrent of wildly-luxuriant fantasy in the artist which we can call nothing less than genius.

In the scene of the angel it is rather overdone; but as regards the massing of light and shade we regard this engraving as one of the boldest and most successful feats in our experience. In the way of light and shade, we must also give the highest praise to Plate 11—the Valley of the Andes, with the snow in the distance.

As for the stranded ship, Plate 10, it is simply ridiculous; and would almost lead us to think that M. Doré, with all his genius, had, like the heroes of Messieurs Waillard and Fulgence's capital comedy "Le Voyage à Dieppe," never snuffed a stronger saline air than that of the barriers of Paris.

The last plate of all, when the trumpet sounds and the Jew has his final release, is most masterly. Few living artists could better concentrate in one visage exhaustion after centuries of life, and the welcome of final repose.

THE PRINCE OF WALES A SPORTSMAN.—His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, much to the gratification of the farmers and other sporting gentlemen of the neighbourhood of Windsor, has made his first appearance in the field this season. The manner in which the young Prince takes the fences is a proof that his horsemanship, as well as his literary studies, has not been neglected. His Royal Highness has been out with the harrers three times, and appears to enjoy much the excitement of the old English sport. The first time on which the Prince went out the meet was at Mr. Aldridge's, at Cippenham, near Salt-hill; the next at Mr. Goodwin's, at Burnham Abbey; and the third was, a few days ago, at Mr. White's, of Darney. His Royal Highness, in thus participating in the sports of the field, has presented to him the opportunity of becoming acquainted with the farmers of the neighbourhood, and of obtaining a practical knowledge of the habits and feelings of the peasantry, and of the disposition of the land. The young Prince, it is said, is very much interested in the subject, and has been particularly attentive to the habits of the peasantry, and has been particularly attentive to the habits of the peasantry, and has been particularly attentive to the habits of the peasantry.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA AND THE "REVUE DE PARIS."—The objectionable article for which this periodical has been suspended was one on the King of Prussia, in the form of a review of a work published at Leipzig so long ago as 1855, by a Prussian who has resided in England as a refugee since 1849. The book was merely a collection of the various speeches made by the King for some years past on various public occasions, before and after dinner, in the exhilaration of conviviality as well as in the less exciting moments when his Prussian Majesty was "fresh and fasting." The juxtaposition of these effusions; the contrast between Royal eloquence in the afternoon and in the forenoon; the sentimental, philosophical, and theological strain which pervades some of the speeches, and the curious contradictions found in most of them, produce a very odd effect. The collection is ushered in by a dedication of a most respectful and humble kind to the King himself, and the Royal portrait is prefixed as a frontispiece. An elegant copy of the book was forwarded by the compiler to Berlin; and the King—who probably only saw his portrait and read the dedication—took it for granted that all was right. He expressed his thanks for the honour, placed the book in his own library, and ordered a number of copies besides. Some time afterwards the true object of the publication was perceived, and communicated to the King, who felt much annoyed. It was proposed to prosecute the publisher, and to confiscate the whole of the edition. The article in the *Revue de Paris* was a critique on the work, and in it the King of Prussia was not spared. The Prussian Minister at this Court complained of the article, and observed, that, if the press reflected in such a manner on his master, the official organ of the Prussian Government would probably do the same by the Emperor of the French. Instructions were consequently given to comply with M. de Maltzoff's wishes, and the *Revue de Paris* was proceeded against. It was let down, however, as gently as possible; it might, it appears, have been suspended for two months; it is only suspended for one. The King of Prussia must, no doubt, be satisfied with the readiness shown by the French Government to protect him from the wit of French writers.—*Letter from Paris.*

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.



THE PEERS' PORCH.

WE resume our Illustrations of the progress of the New Houses of Parliament towards completion, with the Engraving upon the front page of the present Number, namely,

THE PEERS' STAIRCASE.

The view is taken from the upper landing, on the same level as the whole of the principal rooms, including the Houses of Lords and Commons. This is an elegant approach to the Upper House, having two flights of steps. In form it is nearly square. The ceiling is divided into nine parts, supported by four piers, upon which are rendered pillars, and deeply-recessed mouldings; from the pillars spring the fan groins of the roof, at whose intersections are some small bosses and shields, all of which are gilded; the space between the groining is coloured azure. It is lighted by two large windows, of five lights each, with rich bold tracery, and enriched with armorial bearings of various nobles—among them those of Nelson and St. Vincent. The side wall is divided, like the windows, into five compartments, in each of which upon gold grounds are emblazoned arms, corresponding with the windows. The floor is of encaustic tiles, in lozenge forms, and varied in pattern. The rise of the steps is also fronted with tiles. The balustrade which surrounds the top of the staircase is divided into compartments, and filled with roses and quatrefoils of very bold design.

The approach to this staircase is from the west front in Old Palace-yard, by the porch (of which we give an illustration), thence through the entrance hall (represented also) and the Peers' hat and cloak room, at the farther end of which, at the side, is seen a rise of three steps; and, turning sharply to the left, we reach the first flight. Bearing again to the left we reach the next ascent. Again bearing to the left, there is a door which leads to the Prince's Chamber, and thence to the House of Lords. There are six other doors (all enriched with stained glass), which lead to various offices and corridors. At night the staircase is lighted by nine lamps, of globose form, surmounted by a regal crown of gilt brass, and suspended from the centre of each division, where the mouldings terminate with a circle.

THE PEERS' PORCH.

This porch is in Old Palace-yard, on the west front of the Palace, facing Poets' Corner; and is of essential service to the exterior appearance of this front of the building. We give a close view of this picturesque porch, with its elaborate fan-groined ceiling and bold centre boss. By this porch the Peers will enter.

ENTRANCE-HALL.

The entrance-hall has its fireplace, and large five-light window en-



ENTRANCE-HALL.

riched with armorial bearings. The ceiling here will strike the stranger on entering by its richness: a lamp, en suite with the rest, will light this hall at night. A screen of oak, pierced with tracery, with a clock in the centre, and filled with stained glass, divides it from

THE PEERS' PRIVATE ENTRANCE.

This apartment has the appearance of a handsome crypt, with its bold piers, arches, and deep mouldings. The entire length is upwards of eighty feet; its width, from wall to wall, about thirty; and its height about fourteen feet. It is divided into three portions in width, and four bays in length, by two rows of piers, three in each row. The bases of these piers are lozenge formed, from the flat of which rise columns whence springs the fan groining. In lieu of a large boss in the centre is suspended a lamp of the cinumbra form, surmounted by a regal crown in gilt brass. Four of these will light the centre, avenue of this corridor, or entrance-hall, at night. Daylight is admitted by four windows from Old Palace-yard front, and by two from the inner court: these latter are of five lights, the former two lights, each. All are filled with stained glass, with the shield, helmet, crest, and mantle of many noblemen—among which are those of John Duke of Marlborough, Arthur Duke of Wellington, George Duke of Albemarle, the Earls of Oxford, Cadogan, Hertford,



THE PEERS' PRIVATE ENTRANCE.

THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—BAS-RELIEFS IN THE PRINCE'S CHAMBER.

Bedford, Sandwich, and others, upon a quarried ground, the middle of each quarry bearing a rose in outline. The fireplace end is divided into compartments; the lower range being filled with the rose, thistle, and shamrock, coloured and gilt; the labels below these contain the names of St. George, St. Andrew, and St. Patrick. The upper panels have the arms of England, Scotland, and Ireland, sculptured in strong relief, and coloured and gilt according to the true heraldic style. These arms are each regally crowned with gilded crowns; the moulding lines are also relieved with gold.

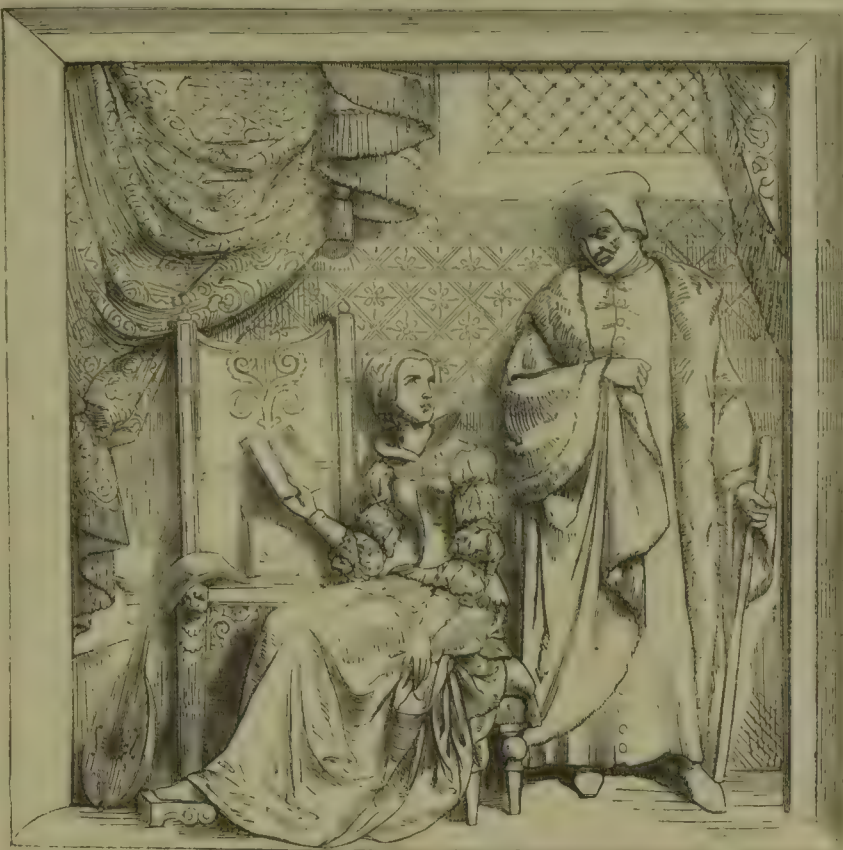
The floor is all of encaustic tiles, of the same pattern as that on the Peers' Staircase. In this room the members of the House of Lords will deposit their cloaks and overcoats. Racks of brass, gilt, and in keeping with the style of furniture already in use in the various rooms of the palace, will be placed at intervals along the room.

We agree with the art-critic in the "Companion to the Almanack," that this lobby or entrance-room "is an excellent example of the artistic treatment of a low room so as to negative what would otherwise be the deficiency of height. The effect of the piers and arches which are introduced for this end, and the grouping of the wall decorations and chimney-piece, cannot be too highly praised. Few architects have shown the same artistic power as Sir Charles Barry, through many different mediums of style, above the trammels of which he has ever risen superior."

BAS-RELIEFS IN THE PRINCE'S CHAMBER. being a continuation of the series of historic tableaux which enrich the walls of this elegant apartment.

LADY JANE GREY AND HER TUTOR.

The first here engraved represents Lady Jane Grey at her studies; the incident being her old tutor, Dr. Roger Ascham, discovering his pupil, and asking her how it is that she should be studying her books whilst her relations and friends are enjoying the sports of the field. She is here represented, in her meek way, listening; or it may be just answering her tutor's interrogation. The costume of the period has been adhered to in the treatment of the subject. The arrangement of the folds in Lady Jane's dress is simple and graceful. The walls of the room are



LADY JANE GREY AND HER TUTOR, ASCHAM.

hung with tapestry. The suspended curtain in the left-hand corner is not in keeping with arranged apartments of the period of this incident. But the group is a clever composition.

MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS LEAVING THE SHORES OF FRANCE.

In this composition, the lovely Queen is taking a last look at the French coast from the poop of a vessel on which she is reclining; behind her are two female attendants, and behind them is the flapping sail and sturdy mast. A young page also reclines listlessly on a cushion, at the foot of the tapestried dais upon which the Queen is seated. A sentinel stands somewhat lower than the other figures, and is evidently watching the receding shore with as much earnestness as his Royal mistress.

THE DEATH OF SIR PHILIP SIDNEY.

This is the well-known touching incident of the gallant and accomplished Sir Philip Sidney refusing a cup of cold water, which had been brought to quench his thirst, in favour of one of his poor wounded soldiers, whom he declared required it more than himself. This noble act is well told in this bas-relief. The wounded General is seated at the foot of a tree, supported by a halberdier; two are bearing the body of the wounded man whose case had called forth the generous act of commiseration from the noble-minded Sidney.

THE GREAT CLOCK.

The history of this already famed Clock dates as far back as 1844. We have, however, only space for the leading details.

The design was furnished Mr. Dent by Mr. Edmund Beckett Denison, Q.C., &c., who has devoted much of his valuable time to the study of clock and watch improvements.

The clock has been going for upwards of four years in its present position. The wheels—with the exception of the scape-wheel, weighing half-an-ounce—are of cast iron, cast with the teeth. The large wheels of the going parts are 27 inches in diameter, and contain 180 teeth; the barrel is 23 inches in diameter; the second-wheel is 12 inches in diameter. The width of the frame for the striking machinery is nearly 5 feet; and the bevelled wheels are 16 inches



MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS LEAVING THE SHORES OF FRANCE.



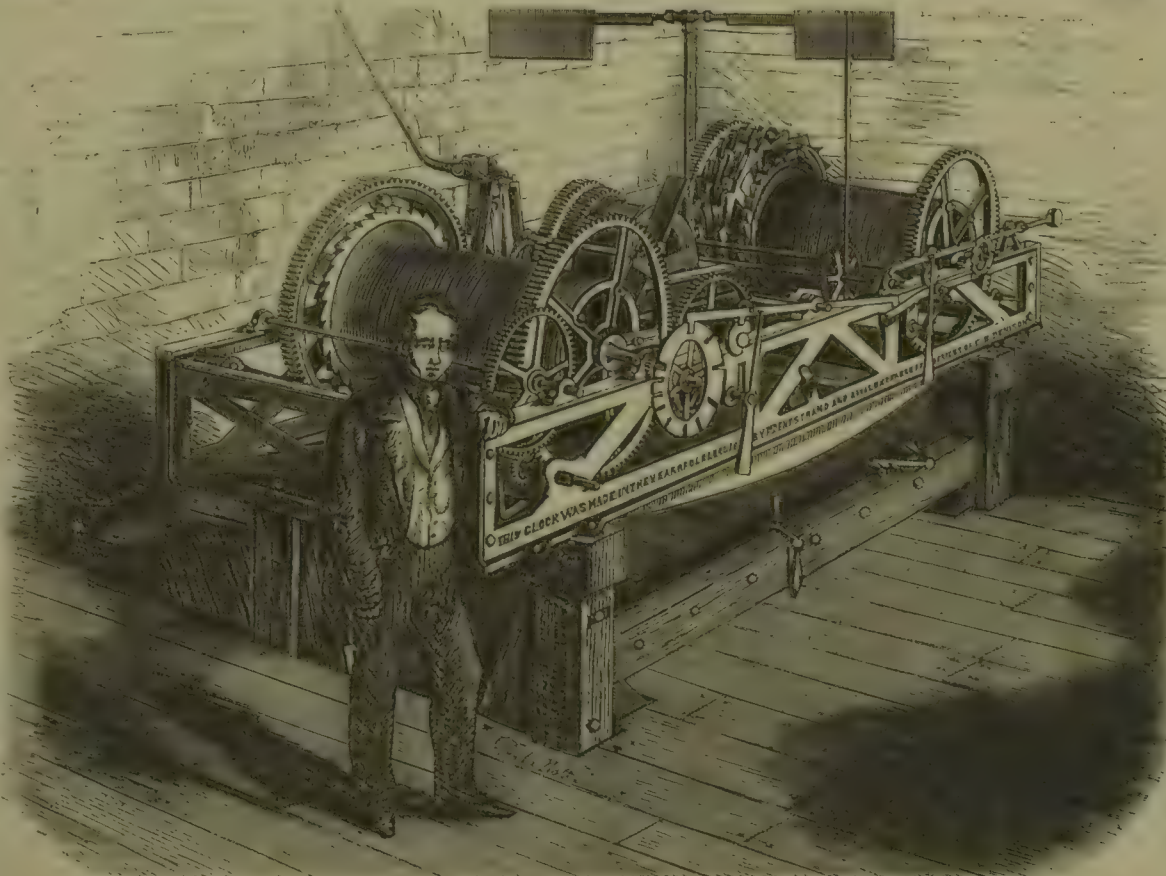
THE DEATH OF SIR PHILIP SIDNEY AT ZUTPHEN.

in diameter. The pendulum is 15 feet in length, and weighs 682 lbs. It is composed of an iron rod inclosed in a tube of zinc; the iron is pierced with holes to allow the circulation of air, and also of contraction and expansion. The escapement used by Mr. Denison is a remontoir, or gravity escapement, being more independent of the causes of vibration for the position this clock will occupy. Wire rope has been adopted, as being more economical and occupying less space. The winding wheels for the hours and quarters are of the same size as the large wheels. There is a clever piece of mechanism for stopping the winding when the clock is about to strike. The winding of each of the striking parts occupies two hours. The second-wheels are rather more than 18 inches in diameter, and contain 105 teeth. The great wheels of the striking parts, the barrels, and cam wheels, weigh 17 cwt., and are 33 inches in diameter. The levers are 19 inches in length.

The weight of the hour-bell is 14 or 15 tons; the hammer, 4 cwt.; the largest quarter-bell, 5½ tons (about the size of the great bell of St. Paul's). The frame for supporting this mammoth of clock machinery is like the girders used at the Crystal Palace, 19 inches in depth, and 15½ feet in length. The dials are to be 22 feet in diameter; the minute-hand, on account of its weight, and having to move nearly seven inches every half-minute, will require nearly twenty times the force to drive it as the hour hand.

The clock is capable of going eight and a half days, the striking part seven and a half days.

The accompanying illustration



THE GREAT CLOCK AT WESTMINSTER.

has been engraved from a photograph by Mr. Freeman De la Motte. For the above details we are indebted to the present Mr. Dent, and his manager, Mr. Smith. A more copious description of this, the largest and most successful piece of clock machinery yet produced, will be found in the *Engineer*, for Oct. 31, 1856.

MR. CORT'S CLAIMS.—The following is an extract from the eighth edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica," by Mr. William Fairbairn, F.R.S.:—"It would be a difficult task to enumerate all the services rendered by Mr. Cort to the iron industry of the country, sufficiently to express our sympathies with the descendants and relatives of a man to whose mechanical inventions we owe so much of our national greatness. It is, perhaps, not generally known that Mr. Henry Cort expended a fortune of upwards of £200,000 in perfecting his inventions for puddling iron and rolling it into bars or plates, that he was robbed of the fruit of his discoveries by the villany of officials in a high department of the Government, and that he was ultimately left to starve by the apathy and selfishness of an ungrateful country. When these facts are known, and it has been ascertained that Mr. Henry Cort's inventions have conferred an amount of wealth on the country equivalent to £600,000,000, and have given maintenance and employment to 600,000 of the working population of the land for the last three or four generations, we are surely justified in referring to services of such vast importance, and in advocating the principle that substantial proofs of the nation's gratitude should be afforded to rescue from penury and want the descendants of such a benefactor."

THE CAPTURE OF BUSHIRE.

The following letter is from an officer of the fleet who, from his local knowledge of Bushire, was attached to the army as guide:—

CAMP, NEAR BUSHIRE, Dec. 10th, 1856.

I have just time to send you a few lines describing the march of the army from Halillah Bay to this place. Shortly after the boats had cleared away the enemy from the date groves, near the place selected for the disembarkation, the 64th Regiment, portions of the 2nd Europeans, 4th Rifles, and 20th Native Infantry, landed on the 7th safely, and myself amongst them. I immediately set out in search of the wells, and was delighted to find that they were within the position taken up by the troops. About a couple of hours afterwards six guns were landed, with their full complement of horses, and the force was put in motion towards a very large date grove, about two miles from the beach, where the men were tolerably well sheltered, but in which water could not be found. While out reconnoitring with some of the staff, and pointing out the places about the camp, an orderly came from the General, requesting me to proceed with a detachment of the Rifles in search of water. Away I went, and was not long in finding out some dozen wells, where sufficient water could be got for a much larger force. I reported to General Stalker the result, and was thanked for my trouble. After the men had rested about a couple of hours the camp broke up, and commenced moving towards the high ground above the village of Halillah. When the troops had arrived within sight of the village, the head man came running out to the General in a dreadful state of trepidation, kissed the nose of the General's horse, and went on as if he was not of his wits. The General told me to explain to him that he was not to be afraid of any one, as he would be taken care of, and a picket stationed at the village. I begged leave to proceed to the village and assure the people that they would be protected. When I got there I told them that they must go and bring their families in, and make themselves comfortable; and that whatever they had for sale in the shape of fowls, cattle, milk, eggs, &c., we would be very glad to buy from them. I succeeded in getting some fowls, and purchased some barley and straw for the cavalry.

work, and another cheer was heard. I looked round and saw the General behind me with the remainder of the force. The artillery by this time had cleared the houses of the enemy; and the cavalry, as well as I could see from the rising ground, were stretching away down to the right to intercept the enemy should they attempt to make for Bushire. Stormers were told off sharp. The 64th and 20th Native Infantry moved to the right of the fort; the 2nd Europeans to the centre; and the General, Staff, Rifles, and myself to the left. At this moment I saw the enemy come pouring out of the fort close to the sea, and saw that the 64th had just mounted the ruins. I knew the ground well, and saw that the enemy would escape; so I galloped to the front of the Rifles—the confounded ping, ping, still going on—and pointed out where they could harass the enemy. Colonel Trevelyan, of the Artillery, then came up to me, and asked where he could get two of his guns in a good position. The enemy by this time were underneath the cliffs on the edge of which we were riding; and as these cliffs were only about forty or fifty feet high. I could easily see what sort of people they were, and satisfied myself that they were the Tungistanes—a tribe who are proverbially brave. The Rifles committed great havoc amongst them; and when the guns got to the position pointed out by their commanding officer, Colonel Trevelyan, the poor wretches were punished most fearfully; but, as many of them had escaped round the cliffs, and would get to our rear, that officer begged of me to find out General Stalker, and get a body of cavalry sent to defend the baggage, and assist the rearguard, supposed to be on their way from Halillah by the same road that we came. My horse was so tired that I could not take him up the steep sides of the redoubt, but left him in charge of a sepoy, and went into the fort. Bodies were lying in all directions, and there was such an immense number of people in it belonging to our own troops that I could not find the General, but got a glimpse of Colonel Younghusband, to whom I stated Colonel Trevelyan's request. He gave me a pencil note, and off I went in search of the cavalry; but find them I could not. At last I met Major Hill, who went along with me and got some 150 of the 3rd Light Cavalry to go along the road to Halillah—I acting as guide. Off we went, and were joined by a couple of horse artillery guns; but the horses of every one were so fatigued that we could only walk, with a little bit of a trot now and then. After passing through the village we came upon the body of a poor camp follower who had been taken by the enemy and decapitated. As we ascended the ridge, some 300 or so of the enemy, who had been in the redoubt, and who had crossed the high ground, were observed wending their way slowly towards their homes in the hills in a wretched plight. It was impossible to follow them, as the cliffs were in many places sixty to seventy feet high, with immense ravines here and there. About halfway to Halillah we met some of the Poonah horse, and halted until it was ascertained that the last man had come up, and that all were safe. I had a weary ride back to the bivouac of the army; and I experienced great kindness. I could scarcely get away from the officers of the 3rd, who, I grieve to say, lost their Colonel on the beach below the cliffs, already mentioned by me. I was told that a villain who had been spared by him shot him; and that the cavalry avenged his death.

When I reached the General's tent both horse and myself were exhausted. I had the satisfaction of finding that the General had seen my conduct, and, in fact, I had scarcely spoken half-a-dozen words, when Colonel Younghusband ran out and shook hands warmly with me, and hoped I had not been hurt,—thanking me for what I had done. I was so glad that I had been of service, that I could scarcely answer him.

I had some supper, and lay down on the ground in my cloak, and had just fallen asleep, when the alarm was given to arms. Little rest could be had that night, and the morning brought a most painful sight—the burial of Colonel Malet, of the Colonel of the 64th (who had been killed at the fort), and one officer of the 20th Native Infantry, with several men. On the 10th, after a slight refreshment, the force moved on, when a very heavy cannonade was heard in the direction of Bushire. When we got within sight we had the satisfaction of finding that the Indian Navy was engaged with the batteries in and outside the town.

A strong redoubt was observed full of men, but evidently, from the fire of the vessels, they were induced to leave it. On reaching it, I found one Persian soldier lying in the trench with the top of his head taken off by a cannon-ball. We kept near the town but, after some parley, it surrendered. Several horsemen endeavoured to force their way through the line, but were all, with the exception of two, killed. One of them I had the pleasure to disarm of his matchlock, pouch, &c., and some person or other took possession of his horse. I presented the matchlock to the General, which he accepted, much to my satisfaction. Here ends my narrative.

FRENCH OPINION ON THE PERSIAN WAR.—Persia, in obtaining possession of the town and principality of Herat, has violated the Treaty of 1853, concluded between England and Persia. The latter Power alleges, in excuse for its conduct, that the terms of this treaty ought to have been submitted by England to the Prince of Herat. Now such an omission, if it took place, does not in the slightest degree affect the obligation of the treaty, for it was in the interest of the security of her neighbours, the Afghans, and of her Indian territory, that England stipulated that Herat should neither be attacked nor molested, unless in the event of a foreign invasion. But no loyal discussion or moral engagements are possible with some barbarian Governments, whose only aim is derive arms from civilisation for the profit of despotism. England has on her side in this question that right and good faith which did not exist in her campaign against the Afghans in 1839. It does not suffice to be enabled to say, "I draw the sword in defence of my right;" it is necessary to add, as England can now add, "and in defending this right I wound that of no other Power." It is not necessary to repeat that we form the most lively wishes for the confirmation of the pacific intelligence brought by the telegraph; but we must candidly admit that we do not rely on that intelligence. A genuine and solid peace can only be established on the basis of the Treaty of 1853, and we cannot hope that the occupation of the southern commercial ports has sufficed to produce so prompt and auspicious a result.—*Sicile.*

WARNING TO BOXKEEPERS.—The French Minister of State has written a circular to the managers of the theatres in Paris complaining that the boxkeepers are in the habit of stating falsely that places which it is desired to reserve on the chance of getting extra prices on particular nights are retained by the Minister of State or his household. The Minister affirms that neither himself nor anybody belonging either directly or indirectly to his office ever take a box at a theatre on any other terms than the general public, and desires that these misrepresentations may not be made in future.

CHESS.

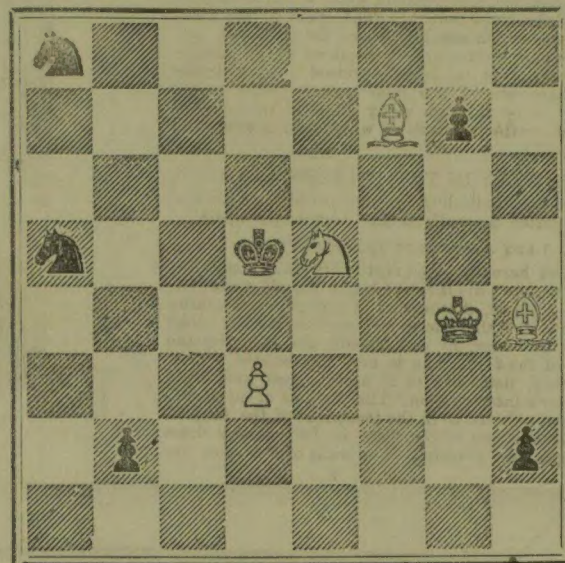
TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE AMERICAN CHESS MONTHLY.—Trübner and Co., London.—This new candidate for public favour has just reached us, and fairly deserves a passing word of notice and encouragement. In design and execution the *Chess Monthly* is to resemble the late *Chess-Player's Chronicle*, and the present *Berlin Schachzeitung*, but, as the programme informs us, "it is intended to occupy a much larger space than is usual with Historical and Literary Chess; this will include biographies of eminent players and classic writers, critical reviews and bibliographical notices of Chess works, illustrations of the game at particular periods and in different countries, anecdotes, tales, and so forth." All this is very well in a prospectus, and must be taken *quantum valet*. We hardly ever knew a Chess periodical which was not heralded by a flourish, declaratory of the projector's intention to devote a considerable portion of its columns to articles illustrative of the history and literature of the game; but somehow, after the first few numbers, the appearance of such articles has always been like the eternally-quoted "angels' visits"—"short and far between." The truth is, nearly everything that can be said on the historical side of the question, has been repeated over and over again. It is much the same with regard to Chess literature and defunct celebrities in the game. The staple pabulum, then, after all for a publication of this description must be original games and problems; and so long as a good supply of these (of first-class excellence) is kept up, the public will be reasonably content to abide by a very moderate proportion of historic and literary Chess information. The opening number of the *Chess Monthly* contains an amusing account of the once-famous Chess Automaton, which was destroyed in the great fire at Philadelphia, July, 1854; a biographical notice of Augustus, Duke of Brunswick, known to the Chess world under his pseudonym of Gustavus Selenus; a sprinkling of Chess Aphorisms; a short notice of American Chess; and a few good games and Problems; of which last, affording as they do a favourable proof of the advance the science is making in the United States, and a fair sample of the sort of Chess to be looked for from the new magazine, we shall present a few specimens in our Chess column from time to time.

PROBLEM No. 677.

La Régence.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in five moves.

CHESS IN PARIS.

The Chess season in Paris has been brilliantly inaugurated. During the past month the well-known German player, Harrwitz, has been twice engaged—once by Prince Napoleon, and then by the Count Casabianco, to exhibit before an illustrious assemblage his extraordinary powers in what is called blindfold Chess play. On each occasion he conducted two games simultaneously against opponents of no mean ability, and on each occasion was victorious; of the four games played—winning three, and making a drawn battle of the fourth. The following are the games contested at the first sitting—his antagonist in the one being Prince Antoine Bonaparte, and in the other the Duke of Brunswick:—

GAME I.

(Sicilian Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. Harrwitz.)	BLACK (Prince Napoleon.)	WHITE (Mr. Harrwitz.)	BLACK (Prince Napoleon.)
1. P to K 4th	P to Q B 4th	16. P to Q R 5th (c)	Q Kt to Q 2nd
2. P to Q 4th	P to K 3rd (a)	17. Kt to Q R 4th	P to K Kt 4th
3. P to Q 5th	P to K 4th	18. Q R to Q R 3rd	K to K B 2nd (f)
4. P to K B 4th	P to Q 3rd	19. Q takes K Kt P	K R to K Kt 3rd
5. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q B to K Kt 5th	20. Q to K R 4th (g)	K to K Kt 2nd
6. K B to Q 3rd	P to K Kt 3rd (b)	21. Q R to Q Kt 3rd	Q R to K R sq
7. P takes P	B takes Kt	22. Q R takes P	K to K R 3rd (h)
8. Q takes B	P takes P	23. B to K 2nd	K R to K Kt 4th
9. Castles	P to K B 3rd	24. Kt to Q Kt 6th	K Kt to Kt 3rd
10. Kt to Q B 3rd	P to Q R 3rd	25. Q R takes Q Kt	Kt takes Q
11. P to Q R 4th	Q to Q 3rd (c)	26. Q R takes Q	Kt to K Kt 3rd
12. K to R sq	P to K R 4th	27. Q R takes P	Q R to K Kt sq
13. Q to K Kt 3rd	K Kt to K 2nd	28. P to K R 4th	K R to K Kt 6th
14. Q B to K 3rd	B to K R 3rd	29. K R to K B 5th	K to Kt 2nd
15. B takes B (d)	K R takes B		

(a) It is better to take the Pawn.
(b) Black has already a bad game, and this does not improve it.
(c) Threatening to advance the Q B Pawn, and, if White then took it, to win the Bishop by checking with his Queen at her Bishop's 4th.
(d) The spectators anticipated White would now take the Q B Pawn with his Bishop; but it appears to us very questionable whether the attack obtainable would have compensated for such a sacrifice. At all events, considering that Mr. Harrwitz was conducting another game without sight of the board at the moment, it must be admitted that he exercised a wise discretion in choosing the surest road to victory.
(e) The importance of this apparently insignificant move will be manifest presently.
(f) This, we presume, was an oversight.
(g) Decidedly preferable to taking the K R Pawn.
(h) Black's game is irredeemable; it is, therefore, of no moment what he plays.

GAME II.

(Evans's Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. Harrwitz.)	BLACK (Duke of Bruns.)	WHITE (Mr. Harrwitz.)	BLACK (Duke of Bruns.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	14. Q to K 3rd	Q Kt to K 3rd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	15. B takes Kt	Q takes B
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	16. P to K B 4th	P to K B 4th
4. P to Q Kt 4th	K B takes Kt P	17. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	K B takes Kt
5. P to Q B 3rd	K B to Q R 4th	18. Q takes B	Kt to K B 3rd
6. P to Q 4th	P takes P	19. P to Q 7th (ch)	Q takes P
7. Q to Q Kt 3rd	Q to K 2nd	20. Q R to K sq	Kt to K 6th
8. Castles	P to K R 3rd	21. Q to Q Kt 4th	P to K Kt 4th
9. K B to Q R 3rd	P to Q 3rd	22. Q to Q R 5th (b)	P takes P
10. P to K 5th	Q to Q 2nd	23. Q R to Q B 4th	Q R to Q B sq
11. Q B P takes P	Q Kt to Q sq	24. Q to Q R 7th	Q R to Q B sq
12. P takes P	P to Q B 3rd (a)	25. Q takes Q R P	K R to K Kt sq
13. K Kt to K 5th	Q to K B 4th	26. Q R to Q B 5th	R takes K Kt P

And draws the game by perpetual check.

(a) It is very evident that Black would have lost a Piece if he had taken Pawn with Pawn.
(b) It was suggested afterwards that Mr. Harrwitz might have played advantageously as follows:—
22. Kt to K Kt 6th
23. P takes P
24. P to Q B 6th, with a splendid game.
(c) With the intent of moving away the Kt and occupying his place with the Rook.
(d) A clever and unexpected move, changing in an instant the whole aspect of the game, and forcing a drawn battle, let White play as he will. To effect such a *renverse* is equal to winning many a game.

ANNUAL MEETING AND SOIREE OF THE MANCHESTER CHESS CLUB.—The annual soiree of the Manchester Chess Club was held on the 21st ult., at Wovenden's, in Market-street, to which the club has removed its meetings. There was a strong muster of members of the club and their friends. Among the strangers present we observed the Rev. S. Burnell, of Warrington; Mr. Cluley and friends, from Ashton-under-Lyne; Mr. Chadwick, the borough treasurer of Salford; and several Manchester gentlemen. The first game played in the afternoon was a consultation game, in which Mr. Ralli and Mr. Francis encountered Mr. A. Fisher and Mr. King. The former had the move, and played the interesting and adventurous Evans' gambit opening; but, after maintaining a strong attack, they unfortunately made a move which enabled their opponents to win their Queen, and so brought the combat to a sudden close. Another consultation game was commenced between Mr. Pinder and Mr. Hamel, of Glasgow (with the assistance of Mr. James Birch), against Mr. Cohen, Mr. Francis, and Mr. Gregson. This *parti*, which was very equally conducted, had reached an interesting climax when the time arrived to adjourn to supper. Many spectators were engaged in observing these games; while others were carrying on combats between themselves, Mr. Burnell being among the number. Upwards of forty gentlemen sat down to supper, under the presidency of Mr. C. A. Duval, the vice chair being filled by Mr. Hasché. The usual loyal and other toasts were proposed, that of "The strangers" being responded to by Mr. Chadwick, who gave "Success to the Manchester Chess Club;" to which Mr. Duval replied in a highly humorous strain. The club, on removal to its present central position, receives a considerable accession of members, and is among the strongest in numbers, and it is believed in average play also, of any Chess association in the provinces.



PLAN OF THE OPERATIONS AGAINST BUSHIRE.

We bivouacked on the ground that night, and as I had only my Persian cloak I could not sleep for the cold. The men scoured the country for firewood, and made themselves as comfortable as they could under the circumstances. We remained there all the 8th, waiting for the remainder of the force, artillery, &c., and bivouacked again on the ground with as little benefit as before. However, I had plenty to do in the daytime, and that kept me from thinking of sleep at all.

By 7 a.m. I had a small piece of beefsteak, and left with the advanced guard for Bushire. I was fortunate in picking out the best possible road for the party, which consisted of about 150 of the 3rd Light Cavalry, two guns, and about 200 of the 2nd Europeans. All went well till we neared a village about a mile and a half from old Reshire Fort. I fancied I saw a large body of men in that fort, and galloped into the village with two of the 3rd after me lest any of the enemy should be amongst the houses. I found the whole of the people in the market-place, and rode up to the chief. I asked him, first, if any of the enemy were in his village? He swore by Allah that there were none. I then asked who the men were in the old fort, when he told me that the place was full, but did not know how many. He said there were no guns, so back I went as rapidly as possible to Captain Wray with the intelligence. I was told to point where the artillery could get at them; and the troops moved to about 600 yards from the fort. We prepared for action, when bang went a bullet at one of the 3rd who was stationed close to a lot of houses on the left of the fort. The enemy were in possession of these houses. Luckily they missed the man, and he was recalled, and a shell was sent in amongst them. No sooner had the gun been fired than, with a yell, the enemy fired from all directions, excepting our rear and a small space on our right. Down went three men at once, and we were hard at it;—ping—ping—whurr—bang—the air seemed to be full of bullets, but, thank God! I was not hit once. This was the first time I had been under fire, and as I had only my sword with me I had to wait patiently as a sort of target. I feel truly thankful that I escaped. After the surprise had passed over I began to wonder what I could do; so, observing a poor wretch crawling along within a dozen yards, I rode up to him, and asked where he was hit? He told me he had a ball in the ankle. So I dismounted, put him on my horse, and took him to the surgeon, who was fully employed behind a wall a few yards further on. It was still the confounded ping—ping—bang—whurr, but they, somehow or other, did not bother me very much. Bang went a heavy gun, and a cheer from our men followed. The heavy gun was from the navy, and soon were seen the shells popping into the fort. By this time four guns of the artillery were at

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